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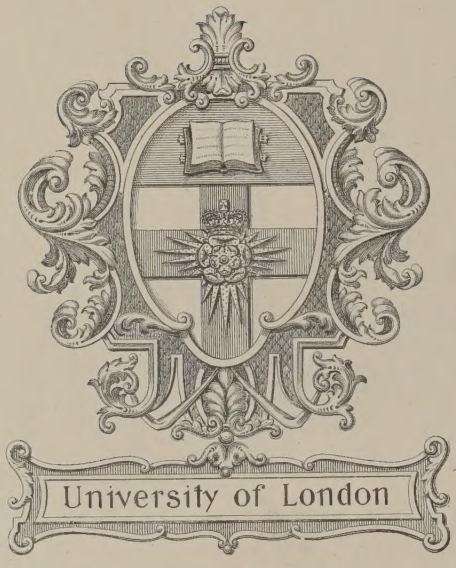

THIRD REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTORS

APPOINTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE

ACT 5 & 6 WILL. IV. C. 38.

TO VISIT THE DIFFERENT

PRISONS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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II.

THIRD REPORT of the Inspector of Prisons for the Northern and Eastern District.

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

My Lord, *London, March* 1, 1838.

II. Northern and Eastern District.

I have the honour to present your Lordship with the Third Annual Report of the prosecution of my duties as Inspector of Prisons in the Northern and Eastern parts of England. The entire survey of the prisons in this extensive district has been completed, and I have recommenced inspecting those which were the earliest objects of my investigation.

The condition of the establishments now first reported upon offer no peculiarities, of sufficient importance, to induce me to invite your Lordship's attention by a preliminary notice. Of those which have for a second time come under my observation, I have much satisfaction in stating that the instances are rare in which I have not remarked improvements either in interior economy or discipline. The most discreditable exceptions are the gaol and house of correction for South Lancashire at Kirkdale; the borough gaol at King's Lynn; and the spinning house at Cambridge. To the state of the last, as detailed in the annexed reports, I most earnestly solicit your Lordship's consideration.

Vide p. 121.
Vide p. 159.
Vide p. 169.

Discipline.

The Silence System is now enforced, or partially so, in sixteen gaols and houses of correction in this district. Even with the drawback of prisoners employed as wardsmen it has been productive of great benefit, particularly in the rural parts of the country, where the habits of the people are simpler and crimes of a lighter character, and where the impression made by the discipline is more likely to be permanent than when the offender returns to the temptations of a populous town directly on his discharge. Independently of its acting as a positive check to corrupting communication, and other admitted advantages, it may be inferred from the annexed Returns that its influence has in some cases extended to diminish the number of committals.

Vide Appendix (A.) pp. 8, 9.

I have great satisfaction in reporting that the magistrates of the West Riding have, among other improvements, resolved to discontinue the employment of prisoners, as wardsmen, in the house of correction at Wakefield, and although this resolution has only partially been carried into effect, yet the results are very gratifying: that irritable feeling formerly noticed among the prisoners having almost entirely subsided.

Vide p. 105.

Moral and Religious Instruction. p. 127.

Every successive examination of these establishments confirms me in the necessity of providing prisoners with the readiest means of acquiring moral and religious knowledge. The advantage is conspicuous even under the least favourable circumstances. In prisons where unchecked association is permitted, when perhaps idleness has been tired of its own enjoyment, or from a better motive, I have often seen men engaged with their books, or employed in the task of teaching one another.

In those prisons where silence has been enforced, it has proved a powerful stimulant to the desire for instruction; communication with the chaplain and schoolmaster being the only authorized intermittent to this principle of the discipline. I have in most cases found the individuals employed as schoolmasters but little qualified for the office, and their method of teaching rather calculated to exercise the memory than to enlighten the mind. I have had both men and boys frequently before me, repeating by heart, chapter after chapter, from the New Testament, yet, when questioned, unable to explain the meanings of the most simple passage. Instruction in classes is, I am satisfied, the best mode, particularly if carried on in a colloquial manner between master and scholar, and no sentence should ever be passed, without an explanation from one or the other. This encourages a spirit of emulation, which I have seen in some cases very beneficially exercised.

Schoolmasters.

Vide p. 108.

Libraries.

In several prisons lending libraries have been established with success, and I most strongly recommend their being extended to the debtors' side; the books for their use might be of a somewhat less serious cast than those to which criminals are restricted.

Revision of the Gaol Acts.

The expected revision of the Gaol Acts is looked forward to with much anxiety by the magistrates, and many contemplated improvements have been suspended, from the apprehension of their not being in conformity with new arrangements, and occasioning a useless expense. Under the impression that this will shortly take place, I proceed to lay before your Lordship various suggestions upon points con-

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nected therewith, appearing to require consideration, and which have attracted my notice while employed upon this duty.

All places appropriated to the confinement of prisoners to be distinctly included in any legislative measure for the regulation of prisons.

Classification.

All classification, save that of untried and convicted prisoners, to be left to the discretion of the visiting justices.

Debtors.

The treatment of prisoners confined for debt, with the degree and extent of punishments which may be inflicted upon them for breaches of prison regulations, to be clearly defined. The uncertainty that prevails upon this head occasions great inconvenience in prisons. The ill-conducted debtor relies upon it for impunity; and keepers are restrained from punishing misconduct, in this class of prisoners, from apprehension of overstepping the law.

Borough Gaols. Vide pp. 83, 87.

In boroughs possessing grants of Quarter Sessions, where the town councils, from want of means, or the small number of prisoners, are unable to provide the accessaries indispensable to prison discipline, as in the cases of the gaols at Grantham and Stamford, where no Divine worship is ever performed, or minister of the gospel ever seen, I am of opinion that it should be made compulsory upon the authorities to send their prisoners to the more efficient establishments of the county.

Power to reward old Officers.

A power should be given to the Quarter Sessions to reward meritorious officers of prisons under certain restrictions as to age and service. I have in several cases observed great inconvenience to result from the retention of turnkeys in their situations beyond the periods when they were capable of duty. The magistrates, from motives of humanity, are always unwilling to discharge officers under such circumstances, and the absence of any provision for old age or infirmity must prevent a more respectable class of persons from seeking these offices.

Vide p. 150.

The appointment and discharge of the under officers is in many cases left entirely with the keeper, and they are not unfrequently preferred for possessing qualifications as gardeners, or grooms, &c., and the relation between the parties is more that of master and servant, than of officers entrusted, in common, with the performance of public duties. The prisoners under such circumstances have no respect for the turnkeys, beyond that which physical force inspires. I am quite satisfied that the keeper should only be called upon to examine into the qualifications of candidates for such offices, and that the appointment and discharge should be exercised by the magistrates.

Punishment of the Refractory.

The close confinement of prisoners in the refractory cells for grave breaches of discipline should not be computed as a part of their original term of imprisonment; or, if it be objected that this power is too great to entrust to the keeper, it might be exercised by the visiting magistrates on complaint made to them. I am satisfied that a regulation of this description would have considerable influence upon the conduct of prisoners. When the period of their confinement draws to a close, many of them become restless, careless, inattentive, and sometimes insubordinate, under the idea they can be so with impunity.

Solitary Confinement.

The sentencing of prisoners to short terms of solitary confinement becoming daily more frequent, I think it absolutely necessary that what is meant by the term should be defined, and one mode of treatment observed for all prisoners under this punishment. The ordinary practice is much the same as that distinguished lately by the term separate confinement. The prisoner remains in his sleeping cell except when taking exercise in the yards and attending chapel; he is provided with books and visited by the chaplain and officers: I have generally recommended this mode as the least liable to objection. In some cases I have found the convict in a darkened cell, not permitted exercise or to attend Divine service, seldom or never visited by the chaplain, and breaking down in health from the closeness of the confinement.

Vide pp. 18, 52, 65, 66, 71, 101, 115.

Introduction of Articles clandestinely into Gaols, &c.

A power should be given to magistrates to punish by fine or imprisonment any person or persons introducing or attempting to introduce, clandestinely, any articles whatever into a gaol or house of correction. Great inconvenience arises at times from persons having a knowledge of the interior of prisons throwing over the walls tobacco, provisions, and letters, generally affixed to stones, or some weighty substance. Detections have taken place, and the parties brought before the magistrates have been discharged from the want of authority to take cognizance of the offence.

Vide p. 125.

Constables, &c.

In several counties the greatest irregularity prevails in the conveying of prisoners to gaol after committal. In the county of Rutland, and generally through Lincolnshire, no receipt for them is even taken by the constables, and it is to be presumed they receive their expenses as a matter of course, without any check over the slovenly and disorderly manner in which they but too often execute this duty. I recommend that the magistrate should endorse the committal, on the same principle as a military route, with the hour the officer may reasonably be expected to reach the gaol. The money, if any, in the prisoner's possession should also be

inserted. The receipt of the keeper, without which the constable ought not to be entitled to his expenses, should specify the hour at which the prisoner arrived, and his condition if otherwise than sober.

Fines.

I have reason to think that in frequent instances the fines paid by prisoners are not very satisfactorily accounted for: it would operate as a partial remedy, if the keepers of prisons were to make a return to every Quarter Sessions, comprising the prisoner's name, offence, committing magistrate, amount of fine, if paid, to whom, if not paid, period of imprisonment, when discharged, if at the expiration of the sentence, or by whose authority.

Diet.

Should any general scale of diet be attempted for prisons, I am of opinion that it should vary according to length of sentence; after six months confinement, and in many cases before, animal food is indispensable for the maintenance of health.

Vide pp. 144, 149, 160.

Transportation.

Of all penal applications, transportation is the one which appears to inspire the most profound dread among our criminal population. I observe among them generally, a kind of undefined apprehension that its rigour has lately been increased. This feeling might, I think, be salutarily heightened by treating convicts so sentenced, and until removal, as men condemned to a punishment only less terrible than death; they should become directly the special objects of the chaplain's attention, whose conversation and discourse to the prisoners generally at such times might turn upon the subject. The chaplain ought to be invariably present at the hour of the convict's departure, which should always be preceded by prayer. I consider it almost impossible to overrate the advantages of transportation as a secondary punishment, whether operating indirectly as a check to crime by the general dread it inspires, or positively when ridding an overthronged community of its most corrupt and mischievous members. Imprisonment, in the great majority of instances, retains the prisoner for a time, and returns him again to the same haunts, society, and temptations. What the condition of this country would have been with respect to the increase of crime, had penal settlements not been resorted to, can be little more than conjecture; but the inconvenience, if not danger, in times of popular excitement and commotion, from such large consolidated depôts of criminals as would be required, were imprisonment substituted for deportation, is self-evident. I refer to this punishment abstractedly; that the details of its administration are most imperfect is not to be doubted, but that they may be improved seems no less certain; and perhaps by a careful moral classification and more general dispersion of convicts among our numerous colonies, and employing them as pioneers to new settlements, or in relieving the army and navy of the numerous and heavy fatigue duties to which they are often subjected to abroad.

Separate System.

Your Lordship having recommended for consideration what is termed the separate system of discipline, I have thought it my duty to apply myself to the subject generally, and more particularly to the practicability of its application, and the results which may reasonably be expected from it in this country.

The recent report of M. Blouet, an eminent architect, who was sent, with M. Demetz, by the French government to the United States, to inquire into the construction and discipline of the American penitentiaries, furnishes the only intelligible data I have been able to procure on the subject of expense. He estimates the cost of a prison, if built in Paris on the solitary plan, at 148*l.* a cell; on that of silence at 80*l.*; the value of the ground not being comprised in the calculation. The details of constructing prisons on the first plan are complex in the extreme, from the necessity of furnishing the limited space of a cell with all the conveniences necessary for the physical wants of a prisoner during a long residence, without hazarding the infraction of the principle of non-intercourse.

Appendix (C.), pp. 9, 10.

Taking the reports of the French commissioners as a test, and referring to the extracts in the Appendix for confirmation, I do not find in either of the three prisons in the United States, built with the express design of entire seclusion, that the physical impossibility of the prisoners communicating with each other has as yet been accomplished. The difficulty of adjusting old machinery to new purposes has always been felt, and will be experienced in this case, for to work this new system with any prospect of advantage, all the interiors of prisons in this country must be re-constructed, and not only the prisons, but the numerous places of temporary detention to which prisoners are conveyed for trial at the Quarter Sessions.

The American penitentiaries have one great advantage over the prisons in this country which the latter can never be expected to attain: in the former, the prisoners are all of one class, subjected to one treatment, and the unity of action is preserved through the establishment: in gaols and houses of correction in England all categories are assembled, the debtor, the prisoner before trial, the convicted who have been sentenced to imprisonment with, and the convicted who have been sen-

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tenced to imprisonment without, hard labour: all requiring a diversity of arrangement and discipline which, under any circumstances, is difficult, but which, I fear, would be more so under the separate system, unless carried into effect with a profusion of outlay, which it is vain to expect.

Admitting here, for the purpose of illustration, that the circumstances of both countries permit the application of the same punishments, I proceed to examine, whether the results of the solitary system are so decisive as to press for its adoption at any pecuniary sacrifice. In Europe, the prison which approaches nearest this discipline is the one at Glasgow, where, according to the Report of the Inspector for that part of the kingdom, the recommittals amount to 50 per cent. In the United States the superiority of separation over silence, taking the recommittals as a test, is only 1¼ per cent. For example, out of 278 prisoners discharged from the Eastern Penitentiary, 15 have been recommitted; of 1,628 from Auburn, 110 have returned.

It has been a subject of some doubt, especially after the painful results of the experiments of solitary confinement made in the states of New York and Virginia, whether, even with the alleviation of labour, the seclusion might not prove injurious to the mind. This, however, does not appear to be the case generally, although it is impossible to say that it has not occurred in some instances. Dr. Franklin Bache, the distinguished physician to the Eastern Penitentiary, in reply to certain questions put to him by the French commissioners, says, "The subject of mental alienation, as respects prisoners, is a difficult problem. I consider it urgent, in many cases, to distinguish between criminal acts and those occasioned by derangement. Judges and jurymen admit the excuse of madness with considerable repugnance, from apprehension of the guilty escaping punishment; and from this I am inclined to believe that, in some instances, prisoners not in a sane state of mind have been sentenced to imprisonment in the Penitentiary. I am also of opinion, that the state of a criminal's mind is indicative of a predisposition to insanity, which may be determined by the restraint and mental conflict which the greater proportion of the prisoners undergo.

"These remarks have a tendency to show that cases of insanity, more or less, must occur in all prisons; and in this I am confirmed by my own experience during many years as physician to the prison in Walnut-street,* and the Eastern Penitentiary; *but I feel it my duty to state, that in making a comparison between the two prisons, I have met with more cases of insanity in the Penitentiary than in the Walnut-street prison.*" In further elucidation of this important subject, I have compiled, from a Document furnished by Dr. Bache to the French commis-

Appendix (B.), p. 9.

sioners, a table of the number and the particulars of prisoners who have manifested symptoms of aberration of mind while in the Eastern Penitentiary, and independent of those in whom the disease is stated to have been traced, previous to their imprisonment.

I now advert to some of the difficulties which seem to oppose the general application of separate confinement in this country. By this system it is proposed to accomplish the difficult combination of punishment and reform. For this latter process a long period of time is admitted to be requisite: Mr. Livingston, a great authority, calculates from four to six years, others from two to three. In the American penitentiaries no prisoners are received for a shorter term than one year.

In the first place, transportation to a penal colony takes the entire of those prisoners from among us, whose sentences would be of a duration sufficient for their thorough reform. The principle of prison discipline to be followed in this country must be determined by the short terms of imprisonment to which the great proportion of offenders are sentenced: whether the system of separation will exercise a powerful deterring influence, after a few days' or weeks' confinement, remains to be proved; we have as yet no experience of its efficacy in the United States, and that

Appendix (D.), p. 10.

of Glasgow, with its 50 per cent. of recommittals, is anything but encouraging. In the new county gaol at Moyamensing, in Pennsylvania, of which two wings only have as yet been erected and occupied, the principle of separate confinement has been recently extended to prisoners before trial, and those sentenced to less than one year's imprisonment. This prison appears to have been constructed with extreme

Appendix (C.), p. 10.

care and precaution, notwithstanding which, communication between the prisoners prevails to a considerable extent, and even the simple requisite of absolute silence has not been obtained. I am persuaded that such would be the case with prisoners for short terms in this country, particularly vagrants and disorderlies, who would, either from perversity or to cheer their solitude, disturb the peace of a prison, by singing and shouting in their cells.

* A prison at Philadelphia, conducted upon the vicious principle of unchecked association.

Another serious obstacle to its adoption is the indispensable necessity of providing each prisoner with manual labour in his separate cell. In the Eastern Penitentiary the prisoners are occupied with their work from an early hour in the morning until nine at night, being allowed each a lamp, when necessary, for the purpose: this constant occupation for so many hours prevents that torpor in the circulation which would result if compelled to sleep away the numerous hours of the winter nights. In England, where the perfection of machinery is daily supplanting the labour of man's hands, the impossibility of finding employment for prisoners is the incessant complaint of all persons connected with the management of prisons, especially of those in the agricultural districts. The increased demand for the peculiar descriptions of work, which can be carried on by a prisoner in a cell, would multiply the present difficulties tenfold. It is this demand for labour which so materially contributes to the incontestable superiority of the United States in these matters, and operates extensively in the repression of crime. The discharged prisoner at once finds the means of obtaining an honest livelihood, and is kept steady in his resolution of amendment.

Labour.

On the all important topic of moral and religious instruction, from the circumstance of there being no stipendiary chaplain or schoolmaster employed at the Eastern Penitentiary, there are no results by which its claim of superiority can be tested, or the means ascertained by which elementary knowledge is to be imparted to the large number of prisoners requiring it in this country, without a very great increase in the number of chaplains and schoolmasters; moreover it is clear, if recognition and communication are to be effectually prevented, the assembling of the prisoners for daily, or even sabbath prayer, is inadmissible. It is worthy of remark, that the execution of a fundamental rule of the Eastern Penitentiary requiring the keeper to visit every prisoner at least once during the day, has become impossible from the number, and that he is only able to see each prisoner about twice a-week.

Instruction.

Appendix (C.), p. 10.

I am apprehensive that, in making prison discipline to partake so much of the Penitentiary character, its deterring influence will be greatly weakened. I consider a great deal too much dependance is placed upon the reformation of criminals. That instances do occur is without doubt, and perhaps oftener after acts of violence, perpetrated under the impulse of the passions, than when the offences are against property, and committed with premeditation; but these seem too few and precarious to sanction the introduction of it as the directing principle of penal discipline. In the greater proportion of cases offenders are mere selfish beings, who can only be acted upon through the medium of their senses. Such may, with some probability, be deterred from the commission or the repetition of offence by the terror of being exposed to, or finding themselves, when subjected to the rigours and privations of a prison, in a worse physical condition than had they abstained from crime, but are little likely to be made sensible of the distant good which the prospect of moral reformation offers to them. The distinction and comparative value of the two processes has been well set forth by Archbishop Whately, who says, "Could we be sure of accomplishing the reformation of every convicted criminal, at the same time making his services available to the public, yet if the method employed should deter no one from committing the offence, society could not exist under such a system. On the other hand, if the punishment denounced had no other tendency whatever but to deter, and could be completely effectual in that, it is plain that it would entirely supersede all other expedients, since it would never be inflicted."

The result of inquiries made by me as to the extent of contamination in gaols, induces me to think it somewhat overrated and that the greater number of prisoners enter them with too many previously condoned offences upon their shoulders, to suffer very materially from evil communication; that serious injury has resulted, and does, from unrestrained association, admits of no doubt, but still credit should be allowed for the decisive check given to it by the improved discipline of many of our prisons. I am quite sensible that there are imperfections in what is termed the system of silence, yet I think it has hardly met with sufficient consideration from its opponents. This system has been reproached for the mere vices of its administration, particularly for the employment of prisoners as wardsmen, a practice never contemplated by its originators, or resorted to in the United States. To such as are unacquainted with the precision, regularity, and minuteness, attained without difficulty under military discipline, the details of the system of silence must naturally seem cumbrous and prolix; while to myself, after some experience in the army, this does not at all appear to be the case. It must, however, be admitted to possess one superior quality among others—the placing men under trying circumstances where they are compelled to exercise, and may acquire, the valuable habits of self-control. At the same time, social duties are kept in view; for it exacts respect

System of Silence.

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to authority, order, cleanliness, decency at meals, and industry at labour. The harshness of all this is little more than what the rustic undergoes during the period of his transformation into a soldier. The silence, irksome as it may be, is, moreover, gratefully and beneficially mitigated by the consolations of religion and the lessons of instruction; and I have great satisfaction in referring to the evidence and reports of chaplains, as affording testimony of its having been the means of quickening among the prisoners a desire for instruction, and of occasioning more respect and attention being paid to the sacred volumes in their possession.

Vide pp. 24, 94, 97, 105, 146, 151, 155.

Separate Sleeping-Cell required for each Prisoner.

The great obstacle to the establishment of an equal discipline is, the want of a separate sleeping-cell for each prisoner. I regard it as a first principle to which all others are subordinate. This once provided for, and then, if thought desirable, a much closer approach may be made to entire separation. The convicted, after labouring in separate partitions on the wheel, or in the work-rooms at suitable distances from each other, may be conducted to their sleeping-cells to eat their meals; the untried, and those not sentenced to hard labour, might remain in their cells, due allowance being made for exercise in the yards and instruction in classes. I think the option of seclusion might be given, at all times, to prisoners before trial, when considered safe so to leave them; not that many may be expected to avail themselves of this permission, for I have found even men of superior class and education declaring a preference for association.

Management of Prisons.

The management of prisons should be as near as possible upon the same principles as a military organization. The prisoners should be formed into divisions, and officers appointed to their charge; all orders and reports should be made in writing; the responsibility, duties, and precedence of the officers should be defined; the daily routine of services precisely laid down and never departed from; the interior of a well-regulated prison should present the same aspect as a garrisoned fortress. In very few establishments have I found any approach to this desirable state of things; but the county gaol at Derby is an exception, where the advantages of it are strikingly exhibited.

Uniform System recommended.

So convinced am I of the benefit that would be derived by the substitution of one uniform system of prison discipline for the present diversified practice, that I should not hesitate to recommend to your Lordship the adopting of one, capable of general and immediate application, rather than leave it to the remote contingency which must await that of entire separation. I have no doubt that, by a skilful combination of the most valuable points of the two systems in question, and avoiding the extremes of either, one may be compiled which, without requiring any extraordinary pecuniary sacrifice, would be productive of essential benefit to the community, and fulfil every reasonable expectation.

Insufficiency of Prison Discipline alone to repress Crime.

In the letter to your Lordship, prefixed to my last report, I ventured to intimate an opinion that too much was expected from prison discipline in supposing it possible to act of itself very extensively in the diminution of crime, and particularly in a country where the condition of the population is so fluctuating. I conceive that what influence it does possess in this way has been materially restricted in operation, from the consideration of the subject having been generally limited to the punishment and reform of offenders while under restraint. From time to time as one system fails another is brought forward in pursuit of this object, and apparently but to share the same fate. The numerous recommittals are ascribed to some defects in the discipline, not to those temptations which assail a prisoner in his most dangerous hour—that of discharge from prison, when repressed passion rushes to its gratification, or lost reputation has no resource for existence but in crime.

One of the most important branches of the subject, the devising some expedient for the employment of the discharged prisoner, has been almost entirely neglected. I am satisfied that great good may be done in this way by encouragement afforded to voluntary emigration, and procuring employment for those who seek it. I do not mean that this should be afforded indiscriminately, but according to the merits and circumstances of each case. The condition of many of these discharged prisoners may be summed up in the expressive language of a lad at Manchester, in answer to my inquiries: "When I went out of prison, nothing was given to me; when I went out, nobody would trust me; I knew nobody, so was obliged to do what I could."

Juvenile Delinquency.

Vide pp. 101, 102, 114, 141, 143.

The management of youths in prison is replete with difficulty. I consider that the placing them there with adults had better be avoided, as tending to encourage that precocious and imitative disposition so observable in this class of offenders; the discipline to which they should be submitted, for the same reason, ought to be distinct, and of a less sedentary and repulsive character; their labour, in opposition to that of the tread-wheel, should be both instructive and productive, and relieved at intervals by wholesome and useful bodily exercise in the open air, and while the idle and insubordinate are treated with severity, the in-

dustrious and well-disposed should be encouraged by present rewards and the prospect of future advantages. Little permanent effect, however, can be expected from any discipline unless followed by their complete severance from former connexions. I think it would be a most beneficial preliminary step to such a measure, if boys and girls without friends or ostensible means of livelihood were, upon their discharge from a prison, sent to the poor-house, and kept there until some means could be devised for their disposal. The enactment of a law by which the state might assume the guardianship of destitute and delinquent children, and be empowered to distribute them through the colonial possessions either for servitude in the numerous government departments, or as apprentices to individuals, according to their cases, appears the most rational and effective means which can be proposed to check the evil. Mr. Livingston, in his introduction to a Code for Louisiana adverting to the subject, says, "The moral sense in children is produced by instruction only, and the force of example; and with the children who are generally the objects of criminal procedure, instruction has either been totally wanting, or both that and example have been of a nature to pervert most from a sense of right; so that, if the want of discretion entitles to the protective power of the law, it is due to the adolescence of such children as much as to their infancy."

Low Theatres.

I found, upon examining many of the numerous juvenile delinquents in the borough gaol at Liverpool, and the South Lancashire gaol and house of correction at Kirkdale, that their principal and almost universal gratification was that of attending the low theatres in that town, acknowledging that they had frequently committed robberies for the purpose of paying for their admission. I think the proprietor of a licensed theatre should be prohibited, under a penalty, from admitting children unless accompanied by an adult. The lapse of children into criminal habits is, in most cases, attributable to the neglect of parents, and, in others, to their avocations compelling them to leave their offspring for a great proportion of the day without protection.

Infant Schools.

I look to the general extension of infant schools for the humbler classes as a most powerful preventive to juvenile delinquency. The first impressions on the mind are most important, frequently determining future happiness or misery. When children from their infancy have been left to run about the streets uncontrolled, and have once acquired the taste for an idle vagabond life, there is little hope of weaning them from it to pursuits of a more restrained nature. A very minute inquiry into the causes of juvenile delinquency in the towns of Manchester and Liverpool have satisfied me of the surpassing value of thus inclining infancy to the acquisition of correct principles and habits by the gentle, simple, and recreative methods followed in these institutions. Keep children from the streets, and the temptations to which they are there exposed by the glaring display of gratifications in the shops and markets, until the moral distinctions of right and wrong are firmly impressed upon their minds, and much will have been done to promote their welfare at a more advanced period of life.

Extension of Summary Jurisdiction.

Among various suggestions, made with the beneficial view of shortening the period of imprisonment before trial, is one for extending the summary jurisdiction of magistrates to small felonies, with the consent of the prisoner charged with the offence.

Appendix (D.), pp. 10, 11, 12, 13.

For the purposes of eliciting information upon this subject, and to ascertain the feeling of prisoners as to their detention before trial, I have caused the question to be put to those committed for Sessions upon light charges, at the prisons at Cambridge, Manchester, Liverpool, and Wakefield, whether they would prefer having their cases at once disposed of by a magistrate on the understanding that no diminution of punishment would result from their so determining, or whether they would wait until the ordinary period. It will be seen by the annexed returns that 36 elected for an immediate decision, 2 were doubtful, and 26 for the sessions. The great difficulty in the way of such a measure seems to be the encouragement it would give to old offenders to commit depredations in districts where they are not known, and where the records of their previous convictions could not readily be obtained, and thus enable them to get clear of the aggravated penalty attached to a second offence.

I have the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship that, on this as well as on former occasions, I have received every assistance and courtesy from the magistrates.

I have the honour to be, My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,
WM. JOHN WILLIAMS,
Inspector of Prisons.

APPENDIX (A.)

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Appendix (A.)

RETURN of the Number of Prisoners in the House of Correction at Southwell, on the 5th day of March for the last Six Years.

1832	1833	1834	1835 Silence System Introduced.	1836	1837
149	164	137	171	121	91

The centesimal proportion of recommittals to the average number of prisoners is about 6.

TABLE showing the Number of Prisoners committed to the House of Correction at Beverley, and the per Centage recommitted during the following Years.

	Number Committed.	Number Recommitted.	Per Cent.
1833	470	61	12·9
1834	515	78	15·18
*1835	361	77	21·3
1836	270	57	21·1
1837	193	36	13·4

* The Silence System was introduced into this Prison October 1835.

NUMBER of Prisoners in Custody on the 1st October, during the Years—

1830		1831		1832		1833		1834		*1835		1836		1837	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
52	10	33	11	63	14	65	18	54	10	54	3	44	7	30	10

* System of Silence introduced.

A TABLE showing the Total Number of Prisoners confined in the House of Correction at Northallerton on the 1st January in the Years following:—

	Years.	Number of Prisoners.
January 1st	1834	59
Ditto . .	*1835	82
Ditto . .	1836	65
Ditto . .	1837	64
Ditto . .	1838	36

* System of Silence introduced.

A TABLE showing the Yearly Number of Prisoners confined in the House of Correction at Northallerton, and the Yearly Proportion of Recommittals for the Years following:—

Years.	Number of Committals.	Number of Recommittals.
1833	300	7
1834	324	7
*1835	243	2
1836	231	5
1837	240	5

* System of Silence introduced.

A RETURN of the Number of Prisoners in custody in the House of Correction at Walsingham, Norfolk, on the undermentioned Days.

January 1st, 1834 108
Ditto . . . *1835 98
Ditto . . . 1836 91
Ditto . . . 1837 61
Ditto . . . 1838 44

RECOMMITTALS.

From January 1st, 1833, to January 1st, 1834				38
Ditto	1834,	Ditto	1835	40
Ditto	*1835,	Ditto	1836	51
Ditto	1836,	Ditto	1837	24
Ditto	1837,	Ditto	1838	27

* Those who have been committed years back are inserted in the recommittals. The system of silence was enforced in this prison in August, 1835.

APPENDIX (B.)

Appendix (B.)

TABLE of Prisoners who appear to have manifested Symptoms of Aberration of Mind during their Imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary at Philadelphia from the Time of its first Occupation in October, 1827, to the end of December, 1836.

No.	Age.	Cause of Liberation.	Time in Prison.	State of Health on coming in.	State of Health on Discharge.	
117	21	Expiration.	18 months	Good	Deranged	The cause of his derangement is a religious excitement which came on a year after he had been in confinement.
170	19	Expiration.	3 years	Good	Good	Has shown symptoms of aberration during his confinement.
192	26	Expiration.	2 years	Good	Doubtful	This prisoner is devoid of all intelligence. After coming in he manifested some symptoms of derangement, but very slight.
204	31	Expiration.	3 years	Good	Imperfect	Appeared melancholic.
205	41	Expiration.	2 years	Good	As good	Has been a lunatic for some time; it became necessary after his liberation to send him to an asylum.
252	..	Expiration.	16 months	Good	..	Since coming in his bodily health good, but his state of mind doubtful, and very excited.
259	..	Expiration.	1 year	Good	Not so good	A countryman, weak in mind; he has manifested some slight signs of derangement.
262	..	..	..	Good	Imperfect	Has had hallucinations.
318	..	..	..	Good	Imperfect	A year after coming in had epileptic convulsions, and during three months was in a state of great irritation. Has been since going on well. His mind quite clear.
341	19	Expiration.	18 months	Good	Not so good	Has had hallucinations.
341	35	Expiration.	18 months	Good	Good	Has had a violent attack of monomania, of which he is completely cured.

The above table does not comprise those cases in which the prisoners have been stated to have been affected with insanity previous to their admission, and of which the number appears to have been 10 during the same period.

APPENDIX (C.)

Appendix (C.)

Extracts from the Reports of MM. Demetz and Blouet, Commissioners from the French Government to examine into the state of the Penitentiaries in the United States. Paris, 1837.

Eastern Penitentiary, Philadelphia.

"If the general disposition is more simple at Philadelphia than at Auburn, the details are much more complicated: the constant residence of the prisoners makes it indispensable that each cell should be provided with water, a privy, warmth, and ventilation."

"Doctor Bache says, since the adoption of the system of heating the prison by hot water, the cells are by no means so well ventilated as when hot air was made use of for the purpose, and that now the ventilation is perhaps not altogether sufficient."

"The numerous accidents occasioned by the imperfectness of the pipes for supplying the hot water led to the adoption of another plan—twenty of the prisoners having been found at times in a state of asphyxia, from which they were only recovered through prompt attention. The present system of warming the cells is by hot water. It must be admitted that this is insufficient for the cells farthest from the stoves; the water when it reaches them is not sufficiently heated to afford the necessary warmth. Prisoners have had their hands frost bitten. Moreover, the physcian, in reply to our inquiries, states that either method might be employed, and that, where one pipe was not sufficient, a second might be."

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT. Appendix (C.)

"He considers the employment of hot air preferable, because available for renewing the air of the cell."

"Notwithstanding the precaution taken to prevent offensive smells from the water-closets it will perhaps be necessary to establish a further system of ventilation by means of pipes connected with the pans of the water-closets and terminating above the roofs."

Undoubtedly, more has been done in this penitentiary than elsewhere to hinder prisoners from communicating; but notwithstanding all the means employed, they have not as yet completely succeeded in preventing their conversing with each other. The prisoners talk through the pipes of the water-closets when they are being cleaned, and through the ventilators.

The expense of building this penitentiary amounted to 303*l.* a cell.

"The annual mortality during the 7 years I have been physician to the Eastern Penitentiary has been 3 in 100." *Dr. Bache's Evidence*, p. 122.

"I think it would be an advantage if a penitentiary upon the principle of separation was comprised of several stories with airing courts communicating with the cells on the ground floor. The ground floor might be constructed so as to be almost as dry as those above if the flooring rested on arches of masonry, and which would have the additional advantage of preventing escapes. After the masonry has become dry, the principal cause of humidity is the thickness of the walls, and the consequent slowness with which the temperature is changed: so that, after cold, wet, and warm weather set in, the temperature of the surface of the walls, rising but slowly, remains often below the real point. Every time this happens humidity follows."—p. 123.

Prisoners sentenced to solitary confinement should be prevented from the possibility of communicating with each other by noises or signals. This is not really the case, in the Eastern Penitentiary. The privies have occasionally been a source of trouble from their stoppage, causing offensive smells, and affording the means of communication.

"I am not exactly prepared to say how this can be obviated. Perhaps a separate privy might be constructed for each prisoner, and so as to be easily cleansed from the exterior."—p. 121.

"In a medical point of view I am of opinion that religious instruction ought not to be given through the medium of sermons, addressed to a body of prisoners, although each may remain seated singly in his cell. Many prisoners come into the penitentiary with excited feelings, upon various subjects, and all in a state most susceptible of impressions which, by strong appeals and severe reproaches, might be goaded into insanity."—p. 121.

Duties of the Keeper of the Eastern Penitentiary.

Rule 2.—"The keeper shall reside in the penitentiary; he is not to be absent a single night without the permission in writing of 2 inspectors; he is to visit every cell, and see every prisoner in his charge at least once a day."

"The number of prisoners renders it impossible for the keeper to execute this rule: he sees every prisoner about twice a week."—p. 93. *Report of M. Demetz.*

Penitentiary at Trenton, New Jersey.

"The system followed at Trenton is the same at the Eastern Penitentiary, but the discipline there is very badly observed, we ourselves noticed several serious violations. This prison has been lately erected at a cost of about 200*l.* a cell, including the land."—p. 65. *Report of M. Blouet.*

New County Prison at Moyanrensing.

"The plan of this prison is very simple, and well contrived for the 2 classes of prisoners it is intended to hold. In the right wing are placed the convicted: the ground floor is occupied by males and females, which is the source of great inconvenience, from the facility of their communicating with each other. The left wing is disposed in the same manner, but appropriated to prisoners before trial, and vagrants. As it often happens that the prisoners they bring disturb the silence by shouts it is perhaps urgent to have a separate place for the turbulent, at least their cries should not be permitted to be heard by the others. The similar inconvenience of communication between the sexes is experienced in the right wing.

"Unfortunately the pipes for heating the cells facilitate intercourse between the prisoners, and the more so, as the sound is carried into the adjoining cell, by the current of hot air which rushes into it. This heating is extremely expensive.

"The privies are exactly the same as those in the Eastern Penitentiary, and in this prison as well as there, the prisoners communicate with each other through the pipes and the ventilators."—p. 69.

APPENDIX (D.)

Appendix (D.) TABLE of the Terms of Imprisonment, from the Date of Commitment till the Date of Discharge, of all Prisoners in the Prisons of Great Britain during the Year 1836.

Under Fourteen Days.	Fourteen Days and under One Month.	One Month and Two Months.	Two Months and under Three Months.	Three Months and under Six Months.	Six Months and under One Year.	One Year and under Two Years.	Two Years and under Three Years	Three Years and upwards.
13,216	8,916	13,389	5,274	5,202	1,617	679	114	74

APPENDIX (E.)

RETURN of Answers of Prisoners Committed to the County Gaol at Cambridge for certain Offences, for Trial at the Sessions, to the following Question:—"Would you rather be dealt with by a Magistrate at once, or wait till the Sessions to go before a Jury, understanding the Magistrate to have the power as the Sessions to inflict the same Punishment?"—January, 1838.

Name.	Age.	Offence charged.	If before Convicted or not.	Answer.
Holben K.	25	Stealing 2 pieces of wood.	Never.	"I would rather have been sentenced by a magistrate, as my time would have been going on."
David C.	23	Stealing a brass kettle . .	Never.	The like.
Edward G.	25	Stealing a brass kettle . .	Never.	The like.
William H.	37	Stealing a brass kettle, also 9 turkeys.	Never.	The like.
Elijah W.	26	Stealing a brass kettle, also 9 turkeys.	Never.	The like.

A similar Return from the New Bailey House of Correction, Salford, January 28, 1838.

Name.	Age.	Offence.	If before Convicted.	Would be tried by a Jury or a Magistrate.
James V.	35	Paying base coin . . .	Never	By a jury.
William B.	24	Obtaining goods by false pretences.	Ditto	Ditto.
Charles O'H.	19	Stealing a hat	Once convicted and once acquitted of felony.	Ditto.
George S.	24	Stealing money . . .	Once convicted of felony, once as a vagrant.	Ditto.
Thomas L.	38	Stealing a kettle and other articles.	Once tried for a felony and acquitted.	Ditto.
William P.	51	Stealing a lead pipe . .	Once convicted of felony, and once as a vagrant.	Ditto.
Joseph T.	37	Stealing flannel . . .	Once convicted of felony, received a sentence of seven years, was sent to the Penitentiary.	Ditto.
William S.	44	Stealing three files . .	Never	Ditto.
John A.	53	Stealing fifty cigars . .	Ditto	Ditto.
Josiah C.	31	Stealing five ducks . .	Ditto	Ditto.
Jonas D.	22	Stealing one shirt . . .	Ditto	Ditto.
John M.	22	Stealing half a load of flour.	Ditto	Ditto.

Similar Return from the House of Correction for the West Riding of York, at Wakefield, January, 1838.

	Age.	Offence.	Previous Committal.	Would remain till Sessions.	Would be tried by a Magistrate at once.	Remarks.
J. L.	16	Stealing a silk handkerchief	1	Yes.		
W. B.	25	„ brass top . . .	5	. .	Yes.	Decided.
J. W.	26	„ in lead	..	. .	Yes.	
S. F.	45	„ 9 lbs. beef . . .	..	Yes.	. .	Decided.
B. T.	29	„ 2 lbs. tea . . .	..	. .	Yes.	
G. E.	17	„ a cartside board .	..	. .	Yes.	
T. C.	18	„ 7 lbs. potatoes . .	..	. .	Yes.	Decided.
R. R.	19	„ ropes	1	. .	Yes.	
S. R.	36	„ 1 pair of shoes . .	1	Yes.	. .	Decided.
I. J.	30	„ 1 purse & 3 tickets	..	Yes.	. .	Ditto.
W. R.	18	„ 1 book	4	. .	Yes.	Ditto.
H. B. N.	16	„ 1 pair shoes . .	3	Yes.		
Jas. H.	15	„ ditto . . .	5	. .	Yes.	
W. B.	16	„ ditto . . .	..	. .	Yes.	
W. R.	24	„ 4 deal boards . .	3	. .	Yes.	Decided.
C. G.	16	„ 2 hens	2	. .	Yes.	
		Total . .	..	5	11	
		First offence . . .	..	2	5	
		Previous committal .	..	3	6	
		20 years old and under	..	2	7	
		Above 20	..	3	4	

Return of Prisoners who now stand Committed to take their Trial for Felony and Misdemeanors at the next Quarter Sessions.

No.	Name.	Age.	Whether previously convicted, or otherwise.	Nature of present charge.	Whether prefer being tried by a Jury	or Magistrate at once.
1	Rachael C. . . .	15	Never in custody before	Stealing clothes from a dwelling-house.	.. ..	Would rather have been sentenced at once by the magistrate, as she admitted the offence.
2	Sarah H. . . .	30	Never in custody before	Stealing a blanket from her employer	.. ..	Thinks a magistrate's decision would have been better than waiting till the sessions, as she admitted the theft.
3	Hannah M. . . .	21	Three times committed for trial, but always escaped for want of prosecutors' appearance.	Stealing 5*l.* from the person . . .	Would prefer being tried by a jury .	.. ..
4	Ann B.	16	Convicted five times as a vagrant .	Stealing 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* from the person	Thinks a jury would be the best, but does not know.	.. ..
5	Rachael M'L. . .	21	Never in custody before	Stealing a carpet, the property of her master.	.. ..	Would rather the magistrates had decided her case, as she admitted the offence.
6	Catherine C. . . .	30	Never convicted before. Doubtful .	Receiving the carpet mentioned above	.. ..	Would rather have been tried by the magistrate at once, as she admitted pawning the property.
7	Margaret M'L. . .	15	Once convicted before	Stealing wearing apparel from a dwelling-house.	.. ..	Would rather have been tried by the committing magistrate at once.
8	Jane S.	22	Has been many times before marriage, but not since, nor ever convicted.	Connected with the above charge .	.. ..	Would sooner have been tried at once by the magistrate, and know'd what was to have been done with her.
9	Joseph A. U. . .	20	Never in custody before	Stealing a 100*l.* note from a letter, the property of his employer.	.. ..	Would rather have been tried by the magistrate.
10	Arthur P. . . .	18	Once in custody, and discharged .	Stealing clothes from an outhouse adjoining a dwelling-house.	Would be tried by a jury . . .	.. ..
11	John B.	16	Never in custody	Similar, and connected with the above.	.. ..	Would rather have been tried at first by the magistrate.
12	William W. . . .	17	Served one month as a negligent apprentice.	Same as above.	Cannot say	Cannot say.
13	James H. . . .	22	Once in custody, and discharged .	Stealing a bale of cotton from a vessel.	.. ..	Should as soon the magistrate had tried him.
14	Archibald B. . .	28	Never in custody before	Stealing the above-named cotton, he [illegible]	Would rather be tried by a jury . .	.. ..

				taining 10*l.* in cash.		magistrate to have tried him at once.
16	George Y. . . .	14	Once in custody and discharged .	Connected with Slone above . .	.. ..	Thinks he had better been tried by the magistrate.
17	William E. . . .	28	Never in custody before	Stealing iron from a wharf . . .	.. ..	Would sooner have been tried by the magistrate at once.
18	William P. . . .	42	Once in custody on suspicion, but discharged.	Charged in connexion with William Evans in the above.	.. ..	Would rather been tried, and disposed of at once.
19	Robert J. . . .	22	Once convicted, and served 12 months	Stealing a piece of cloth from a shop door.	Would rather be tried by a jury.	.. ..
20	Henry R. . . .	15	Once in custody, and discharged .	Stealing some wearing apparel from a dwelling-house.	.. ..	Would rather the magistrate had tried him at once.
21	William S. . . .	15	Once in custody, and discharged .	Charged in connexion with Robinson above.	.. ..	Would rather have had his sentence at once.
22	Thomas G. . . .	73	Never in custody before	Charged with being in connexion with and receiving the property from R. and S.	.. ..	Would rather have been tried by the magistrate.
23	Thomas S. . . .	16	Twice previously convicted as a vagrant.	Stealing a firkin of butter from a shop door.	.. ..	Would rather have been tried by the magistrate, and got his sentence at once.
24	Thomas R. . . .	17	Never in custody before	Charged in connexion with Seatle above.	Would rather be tried by a jury . .	.. ..
25	Edward J. . . .	23	Never in custody before	Stealing 15 shillings from his lodgings.	.. ..	Would rather have been tried by the magistrate, and his punishment at once commenced.
26	John K.	16	Three times convicted summarily .	Stealing 3 cwt. of old rope . . .	Would rather be tried at sessions .	.. ..
27	Robert W. . . .	18	Once convicted summarily . . .	Stealing clothes from a dwelling-house.	Would sooner stopt, and be tried at sessions.	.. ..
28	Thomas L. . . .	25	Never in custody before . . .	Stealing 6 knives from his employer	.. ..	Would rather have been tried, and sentenced at once.
29	Philip C.	20	Never in custody before	Stealing a watch	.. ..	Would rather be tried, and sentenced by the magistrate.
30	James D. . . .	29	Once in custody, and convicted of an assault.	Stealing coal from his employer . .	Does not know	Does not know.
31	Henry M. . . .	28	Once convicted, and served 12 months	Charged in connexion with the above.	Rather be tried by a jury . . .	.. ..

Liverpool Borough Prison, February 8th, 1838.

REPORTS ON SEPARATE PRISONS.

RUTLAND.

OAKHAM.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

II. Northern and Eastern District. Reports on Separate Prisons. *Rutland.* Oakham. County Gaol and House of Correction.

This small prison stands on an airy, open spot, close to the county town of Oakham, and was built in 1810 at a cost of 10,000*l.* It is detached from other buildings, and is inclosed by a boundary-wall of brick and stone, 22 feet in height, with several loose courses of materials at the top. The entry is by a Doric doorway of freestone with side lodges appropriated to the residence of the turnkey, store-rooms for clothing, reception cell, and drop room, the roof being the place of execution for criminals. The prison consists of a central building of octagonal form, containing apartments for the keeper, and the chapel. The situation and design of the keeper's house are convenient for inspection, but not being on the same level with the buildings occupied by the prisoners, this object is but imperfectly obtained. The keeper's apartments consist, on the ground floor, of magistrates' room, parlour, kitchen; first floor, 4 chambers; second floor, chapel. The chapel is of an octagonal form, with 8 pews for the prisoners, who are effectually screened from each other's sight by wainscotting 6 feet in height. The chaplain only can command a general view of the prisoners. The access to the chapel is by bridges, and there are 6 separate entrances for as many classes. The prisoners are lodged in 3 detached wings with 6 airing-yards, one to each face. The airing-yards are separated from each other by walls only 9 feet high, and the ends next the boundary-wall, from which they are at an average distance of 50 feet, are closed by a wooden stockade. The privies are built in the corners of the yards, and render the climbing over a task of little difficulty. The yards are partly paved, and water is laid on to the day-rooms and infirmary. It is pumped into cisterns from a well in the felons' yard. The staircases are all of wood, most insecurely constructed; the roofs are of timber, and a great deal of the same material is worked into the walls, even those of the cells. The infirmaries are in the attics of the wing in rear of the keeper's house. They are ample and convenient; their windows look over the surrounding country. One of the two is supplied with a water-closet and water for use. The doors of the sleeping-cells are of oak, the floors partly of brick and stone; the roofs are arched, and the windows, of considerable size, glazed. The building is not insured. The keeper has a considerable plot of ground both within and without the walls.

Dimensions of Cells and Rooms.

Males.—Day room, 14 ft. by 14 ft., height 9 feet; 3 cells on the same floor, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage, length 22 ft., width 4 ft., height 9 ft.; upper floor, 5 cells, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage, length 37 ft., width 4 ft., height 9 ft.; yard, length 47 ft., width 22 ft.

Females.—Day room, length 14 ft., width 9 ft. 6 in., height 9 ft.; sleeping cell in the same room, length 8 ft. 6 in., width 6 ft. 6 in., height 9 ft.; washhouse, length 22 ft., width 14 ft., height 9 ft.; upper floor, 5 cells, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage, length 37 ft., height 9 ft., width 4 ft.; yard, 46 ft., width 21 ft.

Male Felons before trial.—Day room, 15 ft. by 13 ft. 6 in., height 9 ft.; cell on the same floor, length 14 ft., width 6 ft. 8 in., height 9 ft.; solitary cell, length 7 ft., width 5 ft. 9 in., height 9 ft.; dark cell, length 7 ft. 2 in., width 6 ft. 7 in., height 9 ft.; yard, length 14 ft. 9 in., width 6 ft. 3 in.; wall, 10 ft. First floor, 3 cells, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage, 32 ft., width 4 ft., height 9 ft. Upper floor, infirmary rooms, 1, length 14 ft., width 6 ft. 8 in., with water-closet; 1 ditto, length 14 ft. 10 in. by 14 ft., height 6 ft. 7 in.; yard, length 32 ft., width 20 feet.

Convicted Felons.—Day room, length 14 ft. 6 in. by 14 ft., height 9 ft.; 1 sleeping cell, length 14 ft. 6 in., width 4 ft. 7 in., height 9 ft. First floor, 3 cells, length 9 feet, width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage 32 ft., width 4 ft. Upper floor, infirmary rooms, 1, length 14 ft., width 6 ft. 8 in., 1 ditto, 14 ft. by 14, height 6 ft. 7 in.; yard, length 32 ft. width 20.

Male Misdemeanors.—Day room, 14 ft. 11 in. by 14 ft., height 9 ft.; mill room, length 14 ft., width 8 ft. 6 in., height 9 ft.; work room, length 14 ft., width 13 ft., height 9 ft.; upper floor, 5 cells, one of them used as a refractory cell, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage 37 ft., width 4 ft., height 9 ft.; yard, length 46 ft. width 21.

Female Felons.—Day room, length 14 ft., width 6 ft. 7 in., height 9 ft.; upper floor, 1 cell, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; yard, length 15 ft., width 14 ft.

Female Debtors.—Day room, length 13 ft., width 10 ft., height 9 ft.; sleeping cell on the same floor, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage, length 30 ft., width 4 ft., height 9 ft.; upper floor, 3 cells, length 9 ft., width 6 ft. 4 in., height 9 ft.; passage 32 ft., width 4 ft., height 9 ft.; yard 32 ft. long, width 21 ft. 6 in.

The Lodge.—Turnkey's room, 12 ft. 10 in. by 12 ft. 9 in., height 10 ft.; entrance passage 13 ft., width 5 ft. 10 in.; coal house, length 9 ft., width 7 ft. 6 in., height 9 ft.; upper floor, receiving room, length 12 ft. 9 in., width 8 ft. 2 in., height 7 ft.; store room, length 15 ft. 10 in., width 12 ft. 9 in., height 7 ft.; turnkey's bed-room, length 12 ft. 9 in., width 7 ft. 8 in., height 7 ft.

Diet.—1½ lb. of seconds bread daily; 1½ lb. of meat on a Sunday, and a peck of potatoes and 5 ounces of salt weekly. Prisoners convicted of a second offence are allowed bread and water only.

Clothing.—Clothing is only supplied in case of actual necessity. A drab suit of woollen for the men, cotton gowns for the women. Linen is furnished to all weekly.

Fuel.—100 lbs. of coals weekly in winter, and 50 lbs. in summer for each day room's consumption.

Bedding.—Bedstead wood, palliasse, pillow, 2 and 3 blankets, and rug.

Cleanliness.—The prison and persons of the prisoners clean.

Health.—The surgeon only attends when required by illness. The most prevalent ailments are itch, syphilis, gonorrhœa. He keeps no journal: but when any extraordinary case occurs he makes minutes of it for his own use. No death in the prison for several years. Number of sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain was not present on the day of inspection. Two services with one sermon is performed on the Sabbath, and prayers daily. The sacrament is not administered. No systematic instruction of the prisoners. The chaplain occasionally visits the prisoners in the day rooms. There is a library, chiefly composed of tracts and books published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. The keeper issues them to the prisoners at his discretion. He states "that some of the prisoners express a desire to be instructed; that the books are perused by them with considerable interest, and returned unmutilated." I find that the duties of the chaplain, although a resident in the town of Oakham, are oftener performed by other individuals than by himself. In 1837, according to his journal, he has only officiated himself on 122 occasions. It is not to be expected that ministers, undertaking as a casualty to perform the duties of chaplain to a prison, can feel the same interest as an individual permanently entrusted with this important office. I recommend most strongly, the magistrates not to suffer the office of chaplain to be executed by deputy In this prison, where work is scarcely to be provided, or with difficulty, the only means of palliating the inconvenience is by an increase of the labours and attendance of the chaplain, not confined to mere duties of detail, but extended to frequent personal communication and intercourse with the prisoners.

Limited as is the number of prisoners in this establishment, something might, I think, be done in the shape of instruction, if ordinary pains were taken. The chaplain's book laid before the magistrates contains the date and name of the officiating minister.

Labour.—A crank-wheel is applied to the grinding of flour, but the labour is merely nominal. Six prisoners may be put to work at a time, but the numbers very rarely permit of this being the case. They are on for an hour, and then rest for the same period, the time being apportioned according to the number of prisoners. They are locked in the mill by themselves, and the turnkey states, "That the noise of the machinery is his monitor of their being at work; that the labour is thought nothing of." The keeper states, that he has in vain endeavoured to obtain employment for the prisoners; he finds it even impossible to procure grain for grinding at the mill. He purchased himself for that purpose several loads of wheat and barley, but was forced to discontinue it, from the loss which took place. The cranks are now merely worked by a weight and lever—the time of labour being ten hours in summer, and as long as daylight permits in winter.

Visits.—The convicted prisoners by order of a visiting justice once a week. Prisoners before trial daily, with the exception of the sabbath. Letters at the discretion of the keeper.

Offences and Punishments.—Attempting to break prison and disorderly conduct; punished by stoppage of meals and close confinement and irons. Whipping is generally restricted to boys. No case of corporal punishment of an adult for nine years. It is inflicted by the turnkey, and with little or no severity. The surgeon does not attend. Number of punishments, see Table.

Scourge.—Common whip-handle, 16 inches long. Nine lashes of thick whip-cord, 20 inches in length; three knots in each. In the present, as in many other cases, the instrument testifies the impotency of the application, for if used even with the ordinary severity of the army, the punishment, from the size of the whip-cord, would be unusually severe. The scourge, in most cases, I have found to be oftener employed as an instrument of terror than of use.

Irons.—Weight, 6 lbs.

Benefactions.—There are no bequests to this prison: at the suggestion of the keeper, the tradespeople who furnish the supplies contribute and provide the prisoners with a dinner and pint of ale on Christmas-day. A box for donations is placed in the lodge; the contents do not average 5*s.* yearly; they are bestowed upon prisoners at their discharge to enable them to proceed to their homes.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The small number of prisoners in this establishment renders any regular system of contracting for the supply of provisions quite impracticable. The keeper orders the quantity of provisions he requires, and the tradesmen's bills are sent to him quarterly, examined, and transmitted to the clerk of the peace, who lays them before the magistrates in sessions, and upon their approval and order the treasurer pays. The only check, or account kept of provisions received, is a small one for the bread, in which the baker enters the quantity he delivers. I see no reason why every article supplied should not be entered in the same manner when received at the gate.

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Rutland.
Oakham.
County Gaol and House of Correction.

EXPENDITURE from MICHAELMAS 1836 to MICHAELMAS 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
60 13 9	1 8 0	5 16 0¾	0 18 0	42 17 9	4 3 0	8 0 0	. .

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
2 10 0	. .	16 4 6	. .	17 16 6	. .	. .	412 18 11¼

Books.—No books of accounts kept.

Register.—Arranged under the following heads:—Number—sex—age—name—from whence brought—trade or profession—date of commitment and by whom—when received—crime charged—sentence—expiration of imprisonment—when discharged—read and write—observations.

Description Book.—Name—parish—county—age—height—person—face—head—eyes—eyebrows—nose—mouth—neck—hair—shoulders—arms—hands—legs—feet—coat—waistcoat—breeches—remarks.

Journal.—Containing copies of committals and entries of punishments.

Visiting Magistrates' Book.—Containing entries of magistrates' visits and investigations of complaints, &c. The visits are monthly.

General Discipline.—The great obstacle to corrective discipline in this prison, and in other small ones, is the impossibility of finding labour for the prisoners. To render the crank-wheel at all effective as a punishment, the prisoners should never be left to their labour without the presence of an officer. The average number sentenced to labour is from 3 to 4. Under the head of moral and religious instruction, I have adverted to what I consider a principal defect. One prisoner under sentence of transportation was in irons by order of the magistrates, on the day of inspection, for an attempt to escape. The prisoners occasionally work in the keeper's garden within the boundary wall. In April, 1837, a prisoner effected his escape, having been at work under the superintendence of a turnkey outside the prison. The magistrates have since put a stop to the practice. The keeper permits the turnkey, who is a family man, to sleep three or four times a-week out of the prison: I cannot think this prudent, and it certainly ought not to be done without the sanction of the visiting justices. In this prison there is no responsible female appointed to act as matron. The keeper's female servant, a respectable person, does the duty. The keeper states, "That constables sometimes bring prisoners in a state of intoxication; that they take no receipt on the delivery of a prisoner, but that if he observes they are not sober, he reports them to the magistrates, who stop their allowance."

Keeper.—Age 63; appointed 1816; salary 95*l.*, and 5*l.* as keeper of the castle; coals and candles, garden within the walls, and a third of an acre of ground outside.

Turnkey.—Appointed 1830; married; resides in the lodge; wages 17*s.* a-week; formerly in the public line; read and write.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1815; salary 100*l.*; master of the grammar-school at Oakham; incumbent of Navenby, in Lincolnshire.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1815; salary 15*l.*, for attendance and medicines.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS, confined in the COUNTY GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION AT OAKHAM, from October 1836, to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

[3.]

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.						Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.		State of Instruction.			
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.						Read well.	Imperfectly.	Read only.	Neither read nor write.
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																			
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.				
4	..	..	..	..	..	25	4	24	4	26	7	..	..	3	..	1	..	4	1	6	2	..	..	51	11	55	11	52	9	3	2	10	14	20	18

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour or Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	No. of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishments.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
																				A Hand Mill.	Whitewashing and cleaning the Prison.										
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
3	..	1	1	6	..	..	..	7	1	10	1	8	1	16	..	..	..	3	..	..		..	..	..	..	2	1	..	2	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.								Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																											
		Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.										Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prisons.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Tread-wheel, Houses or Divisions upon the Tread-wheel.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
								Cells where only One Prisoner Sleeps and Works		Cells where more than One Prisoner Sleeps and Works		Cells where One Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than One Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below Ground.							Male.	Fem.			
						Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.															d.
To this Prison		3	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	6	2	1	30	8	1	2	..	7	7	1	..	1	6	1	1	1	7	5
Other Prisons																															

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II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Nottingham. County Gaol.

NOTTINGHAM.—COUNTY GAOL.

This gaol is built upon the edge of the rock, on which a considerable portion of the town of Nottingham stands. On the north it is masked by the county courts from the thoroughfare, called the High Pavement; on the south, at a depth of 70 feet below its level, is the densely crowded quarter of the town, known, from its low situation, as the Marsh; to the east and west it touches upon other buildings in private occupation. The prison is entered through a long passage on the side of the court-house; the keeper's dwelling, female prisoners' ward, chapel, and debtors' rooms adjoin, and are old and dilapidated buildings, wanting even the ordinary requisites of safety and convenience. The chapel is a small room, pewed off, and only accessible by a dark, narrow staircase; it is too small for the number of prisoners, and very insecure. A window from a debtors' room, and another from an adjoining warehouse, look directly into the airing-yard of the females; and the windows of the ward occupied by the latter, which are beneath the keeper's house, open upon the Marsh, and the women are often detected talking to the people below. The infirmary for the males is close to the court-house, and consists but of a single room, the other apartments in the same building being occupied by debtors; a prisoner placed there a short time since effected his escape. The parts appropriated to male criminals have been erected at different periods, but the most considerable addition was made in 1833. From the situation of the prison every word spoken in the Marsh below is heard by the prisoners, and noises therefrom during the night frequently alarm the officers, from the idea of their arising within the gaol. The keeper states, "That a prisoner, who was under sentence of death, and afterwards executed, heard his confession bawled about in the streets below, and earnestly solicited me to purchase it for him, which was done." The rock beneath the prison is excavated into cellars, the private property of individuals. The new buildings are of red brick faced with stone. There are no reception cells for prisoners on their admission; and the bath for cleansing them is inconveniently placed on the female side, and the women have to be locked up in their cells when it is wanted for the males. The windows of the Shire-hall, towards the debtors' airing-ground, are very insecure. The privies for the male criminal prisoners are unnecessarily exposed in the centre of the airing-yards: water is laid on to each yard.

Dimensions of Sleeping Cells.

New cells.—11 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. 2 in.; 10 ft. high.
Old cells.—9 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. 2 in.; 9 ft. high.

This prison, having been altered and added to at various times, is very ill suited for the carrying on of any efficient system of prison discipline. A chapel, infirmary, keeper's dwelling, reception cells, and ward for the females, are much wanting; and, looking at the present confined site, it will be a subject of some difficulty to decide how they may be best disposed upon the general plan without adding to its inconveniences.

Diet.—Criminals, 1½ lb. of bread, 1 quart of milk, daily. Debtors, 1 lb. of bread. One penny a-day is allowed by the county for each Crown prisoner, which is partly disposed of in coals for the day-rooms, and the overplus in the purchase of a little meat on Sunday. The prisons are permitted to have provisions sent in from their friends; no distinction is made in this respect between the untried and convicted.

Clothing.—None provided, except in case of urgent necessity.

Bedding.—Wooden and iron bedsteads, mattress, two blankets and rug; sheets to every bed.

Fuel.—The prisoners find their own coals in the day-room. The new cells are warmed by hot air in the passages; the old cells by a stove.

Cleanliness.—The prison and prisoners clean.

Health.—The surgeon attends daily if required, and sees all the prisoners, and goes through the prison twice a-week. He states, "There have been a great many cases of sickness lately, as many as nine at a time; there is a kind of hospital; but when I want it, I am told it is occupied by the debtors, and I am obliged to make use of a day-room. The single room called the hospital is inconvenient from its situation, and I have experienced great inconvenience from the want of one. The most prevalent diseases are the itch, and low and inflammatory fevers: a severe case of typhus occurred during the year in a prisoner under sentence of transportation. The sick have not had those conveniences their situation required. Twice a-week I see the prisoners in solitary confinement; it is impossible that any person can remain well in solitary confinement upon such a diet as milk and bread: these prisoners have generally complained, after three or four days, of pain in the stomach, knees, and back, and of giddiness in the head, and the confinement has been relaxed. I am quite satisfied that it is not a proper diet for men in solitary confinement, nor can they remain in health under it."

Attended by the surgeon I visited the four prisoners, soldiers, undergoing this sentence, and satisfied myself of the correctness of that officer's opinion; I moreover found that these prisoners had not been visited by the chaplain, and were without books. The surgeon keeps a journal arranged as follows:—Date—names—disease—class—diet—number of sick—observations. Number of sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—One full service is performed by the chaplain on Sundays, and prayers are read daily, with the exception of Saturdays, at 9 o'clock, from a prescribed form. The chaplain states,—"He occasionally visits the prisoners; was not aware, at the period of the inspectors' visit, of the four soldiers (adverted to under the head of Health)

being in solitary confinement. They have been since supplied with books. There is no attempt made by him to instruct the prisoners; has occasionally placed elementary books in the hands of some, but with little avail." The matron states,—"The females express but little desire to be instructed; ladies from the town visit them for the purpose, and to distribute tracts, but with little effect. The chaplain does not visit them. When we have had females for murder they have at times been very anxious to see the chaplain, and have done so, but not under other circumstances." The chaplain further says,—"The officers do not invariably attend divine service, and the females have been to the chapel occasionally without one. The debtors do so very irregularly. When a prisoner comes in under any extraordinary circumstances then the debtors' seat is sure to be full. Is always supplied with books by the magistrates. The prisoners in solitary confinement do not attend divine service. Keeps a journal, from which the following passages are extracted:—

"1835. It is the opinion of the chaplain that the room in the county gaol appropriated as a chapel, is, in many respects, ineligible. It is too small, not admitting a proper classification; the access to it by a narrow winding staircase, and high steps, is inconvenient; and the effluvia, easily accounted for in the summer months, and at all times when the number of prisoners is considerable, which has of late been the case, is very perceptible and offensive; and that these objections might be obviated at no very considerable expense, and render the room more appropriate to the use for which it is designated."

"3d August. Since his respite —— —— seems more cheerful."

"13th August. —— —— as usual, expressing some dissatisfaction on being informed of his further respite; wishes he may be transported for life, as he cannot live in this country."

The journal is arranged under the heads of—date—performance of service—observations.

Offences and Punishments.—The principal offences are attempts at escape, which have been very frequent, punished by close confinement in the refractory cells, and irons. Weight of irons used in the conveyance of transports, 6¾ lbs.; on refractory prisoners, 8¼. No whipping. Number of punishments, see Table.

Benefactions.—A rent-charge, bequeathed by ——— Hanley, in 1646, upon the landed estate of ——— Sherwin, Esq., and known as the Meadow, rent being 4*l.* a-year, receivable quarterly; divided among all the prisoners.

Abel Collinson, in 1704, bequeathed 1*s.* to be paid weekly to poor debtors in the county gaol.

The High Sheriff on Christmas-day, and Mr. Elliott, on the 1st of January, regale the prisoners with a dinner of beef, bread, and ale.

Two boxes are placed at the gate to receive donations; they are opened at the discretion of the visiting magistrates; the amount is generally trifling, and is distributed among the prisoners.

Debtors.—The conduct of the debtors is as little satisfactory here as elsewhere. They are allowed to purchase a quart of beer a day; occasionally they get in spirits through their friends. The surgeon says, "The debtors are lying in their beds during the day, and I have frequently spoken to them on the subject without avail." One of the turnkeys states, "Visits to the debtors are allowed from 10 to 12 and from 2 until 5: I have known disreputable women attempt and have got in, but we put a stop to it when we can." The debtors pay 2*s.* a-week to the keeper for bedding if 2 sleep together, and if one has a room to himself, 4*s.*

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—Provisions, and other articles, are purchased by the keeper. The tradesmen send in their bills quarterly, when they are examined by the visiting justices. The bills are produced at sessions, referred to a committee of finance for approval, and the clerk of the peace gives an order on the treasurer for the payment. The keeper states, "I pay the turnkeys in advance, and generally receive the amount due to me about two months after: the county is sometimes indebted to me as much as 200*l.*"

EXPENDITURE from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
194 10 2	5 10 0	18 6 4	7 12 0	16 1 0	3 16 8	14 4 6	. .

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Session or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners, as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
2 2 0	. .	131 13 6	. .	61 7 10	35 7 6	. .	490 11 6
						Salaries. .	469 15 0
						Total .	960 6 6

I cannot refrain from expressing my surprise at the very imperfect manner in which the accounts connected with the expenditure of this establishment are kept. There are no regular books for the entry of the provisions as supplied from the tradesmen. The bread account is entered upon loose slips of paper, the one of keeper's disbursements for sundries is kept in the same way, and the expenditure for the shire hall adjoining mingled with it.

The keeper provides coals for the prison and hall, charging the county with the quantities consumed; he likewise sells coals to the prisoners, and is obliged to keep a most troublesome and elaborate account in consequence; a penny a-day is allowed to each prisoner to purchase the coal, and the overplus is laid out for them in a pound of meat on Sundays. The sixpences for the subsistence of soldiers under sentence of court-martial are paid to the keeper, who calculates and retains the amount for their diet, and pays the remainder over to the county treasurer. Deserters on route, or committed by the magistrates, receive their sixpences, to lay out as they think proper.

Books.—Pence book. A debtor and creditor account is opened with every prisoner in respect to the receipt and disbursement of the daily penny.

Register.—Arranged under the heads of date—name—parish—county—trade—age—height—person—complexion—eyes—hair—marks and remarks—read or write—whether convicted before, imprisoned or charged—offence charged against prisoner—when and how disposed of—committing magistrate.

Register of Transports—Debtors' Register—Keeper's Journal—containing entries of punishments and occurrences in the prison. Daily state book, with number received, discharged, and in custody.

General Discipline.—The defective construction of this prison makes the supervision and control of the prisoners no easy task. Communication between every class is without an obstacle. In aggravation of these difficulties I find a total absence of any attempt to instruct or control the prisoners, who waste their time in idleness and mutual contamination. In a gaol where men are congregated before trial, the labours of the chaplain, uninterrupted by correctional discipline, are the more necessary, and more likely to be attended with beneficial results. It is his intercourse with them in the day-rooms and cells that I allude to, not the regular devotional duties in the chapel. The introduction of some light employment for the prisoners would likewise be highly beneficial, with a trifling payment in the shape of increased diet, or money reserved until discharge, or paid to their families, to encourage the untried to undertake it I recommend most strongly the abolition of the allowance in money of a penny a-day to prisoners, the keeper in consequence being most improperly engaged in a sort of retail trade in coals. If the coals and the pound of meat are necessary, the county should provide them in kind. The females who receive the pence in money have, in some instances, saved it during their stay in prison. The matron, in evidence, says, "The money of the females is not taken from them on coming in. They are allowed 7*d.* a-week, which they receive in money." The turnkey purchases tea, sugar, and other articles for them. The convicted prisoner has her 1*d.* a-day the same as the others. Coals are sold to them by the keeper, half a hundred weight occasionally at a time, and the money is stopped on a Saturday. They have sometimes saved the 7*d.* One woman was here for 2 years and saved between 3*l.* and 4*l.* The convicted woman now here is saving her money. The female prisoner who washes receives food and half a pint of ale from the keeper's table the days she is employed. A convicted female is generally specially sentenced to imprisonment in the gaol to wash for the prisoners. Her female servant (the matron's) assists the prisoner in washing their own linen, and they are in constant communication. They wash together in the yards below. The women for trial are employed, as much as possible, in sewing; I never put them to hard work, their linen in general is washed for them by the convicted. The servant maid locks and unlocks the female prisoners. I think the condition of many of the women in the prison is much superior to those out. Very seldom we have female debtors; the one we have now is of necessity, from the want of other accommodation, placed with the misdemeanants. The debtors can see into the female yard from one window and carry on communication with the women; tobacco and notes have been thrown down."

No order is observed in the prisoners taking their meals, which they do when and how they please. In a prison the most trifling office should be done by rule; something is gained even by teaching men of irregular habits the facility of acquiring regular ones. The entire management of this prison is susceptible of great improvement.

Keeper.—Age 49, appointed 1830. Salary 180*l.* Average 50*l.* annually for rent of bedding from debtors. 15*s.* a-head and expenses for the removal of transports.

Matron.—Appointed 1830. Wife of the keeper. Salary 30*l.*

Turnkey.—Age 46. Appointed 1826. Salary 60*l.* Coals and candles. Receives small presents from debtors for marketing for them. Resides in the prison.

Turnkey.—Age 40. Salary 41*l.* 12*s.* Occasionally receives a present from debtors. Coals and candles. Resides in the prison.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1806. Salary 100*l.* Has two small livings in Nottinghamshire.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1835. Salary 60*l.* for medicines and attendance.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in NOTTINGHAM COUNTY GAOL, from October 1838 to October 1839.

Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.										Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.						Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the Commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem	Male.	Fem.	Male	Fem.	Male.	Fem	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
52	2	1	..	..	..	113	15	14	1	244	11	..	..	41	..	6	..	8	..	24	1	17	..	385	70	426	27	378	24	48	3

State of Instruction of Felons and Misdemeanors.—Can neither Read nor Write. Males, 147; Females, 13. | Read only. Males, 96; Females, 7. | Read or Write, or both imperfectly. Males, 170; Females, 7. | Read and Write well. Males, 13; Females, 0. } Total.—Males, 426; Females, 27.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be whipped.		Labour or Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Death.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishments.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
13	1	14	..	29	3	29	2	14	1	56	4	$34\frac{2}{3}\frac{8}{6}\frac{2}{5}$	$3\frac{1}{3}\frac{8}{6}\frac{5}{5}$	56	4	2	..	..	..	1	..	452	..	1	17	2	13	50	9	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.							Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c.																							Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times, or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.										Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Tread-wheel. Houses or Divisions upon the Tread-wheel.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm and Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
							Cells where only One Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than One Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where One Prisoner Sleeps only		Cells where more than One Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below Ground.							Male.	Fem.			
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.															d.
To this Prison . .	5	1	1	..																										
Other Prisons . .	7	1	1	1																										
Total . . .	12	2	2	1	2	1	..	..	..	2	26	..	8	2	54 Except	6 Debtors.	1	2	..	10	10	..	..	..	4	2	..	2	10	$3\frac{1}{2}$

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Southwell. House of Correction for Nottinghamshire.

SOUTHWELL.—HOUSE OF CORRECTION FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

This prison stands at the northern extremity of the town of Southwell. The area inclosed by the boundary wall is polygonal. The gateway, with lodges on each side, fronts the public road. The lodges contain, on the ground floor, a bath and fumigating room and turnkey's parlour; above, 1 chamber and 2 reception-cells, very deficient in ventilation. The interior buildings consist of 2 prisons distinct from each other, and erected at different times and varying in their principle of construction. The house of correction was originally a central building with 3 detached wings, 2 parallel to its front and 1 in its rear. This accommodation being found wholly inadequate, a very considerable enlargement was made in the year 1827, by the erection, at the back of the old prison, of an extensive semicircular range of 3 stories, with 5 airing yards in front radiating from a central inspecting tower. A passage is carried through the back of the semicircular range in the basement and in the front of the airing yards, connecting the 2 horns of the semicircle. The roof of this passage or subway in front forms a terrace, and commands a complete view of the yards from its top, while the interior is made use of as a refectory where the prisoners assemble to take their meals. The central tower contains apartments for turnkeys and the general kitchen. The new buildings in their basement contain working rooms, cells for the refractory, and convenient washing places for the prisoners in winter. Their first floor is occupied by a double range of sleeping cells. In the centre of the second or attic is the chapel. The prisoners sit there on benches and are overlooked by the officers, who are above them in a sort of pulpit placed against the walls. The only separation of the prisoners there is that of the sexes. The cells are all arched and paved with York stone. The space between the wings in the old prison is divided into airing yards, with the exception of that in front of the keeper's house which faces the gate. In this part of the building are lodged the females and the sick of both sexes. The prison is generally well ventilated. Water is supplied by pumping it into reservoirs placed in the roofs of the new part. The water-closets are self-acting. The airing yards are not paved.

Dimensions—Reception Cells in Lodge.

No. 1.—9 ft. by 7 ft.
No. 2.—12 ft. by 8 ft.
Single sleeping cells—8 ft. by 6 ft.
Cells where more than 1 sleep—14 ft. by 8 ft.
Infirmaries—14 ft. by 8 ft.

Diet.—Males, 1 pint of milk with 2 pints of gruel made from a quarter of a lb. of oatmeal, and 1¾ lb. of bread of the quality called "thirds." Females, half a lb. of bread less. Wardsmen and prisoners at framework labour receive 2½ oz. of meat and broth. Women at labour, tea and sugar and broth in addition. Prisoners before trial are allowed to purchase half a lb. of meat, 1 lb. of vegetables, 1 lb. of bread, 1 quart of milk.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, palliasse, pillow, sheets, 3 blankets, and rug.

Clothing.—No gaol dress nor clothing, except in cases of urgent necessity.

Fuel.—Three divisions in the ground floor of the new prison are warmed by hot air. The two large rooms where the prisoners assemble who are not sentenced to hard labour are heated by stoves, and the rooms in the old buildings by fire-places.

Cleanliness.—The prison clean. A great obstacle to the bodily health and cleanliness is the want of prison clothing.

Health.—The surgeon attends daily, and oftener when required by illness. He sees the prisoners before they are classed, but is not present at corporal punishments. The prison is very healthy. The silence discipline as enforced, has had no effect upon the health. Some prisoners with the present diet go on very well from three to six months, but very few after that period without extra food. It is not found to affect stockeners or vagrants so much as the agricultural labourer. The surgeon states "the diet is sufficient for the period alluded to, but not longer; very few prisoners, but who, after six months, have either been in the sick list, or made wardsmen, to enable them to receive extra allowance. I have known prisoners come in with the itch, and after being cured, and resuming their clothes, it has broken out upon them again. I am decidedly of opinion that it would be better if they received gaol clothing." The surgeon's journal contains entries under the following heads: When received; Names of Officers; Observations. A book is also kept, in which the surgeon inserts his orders for extra food. Number of sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs two full services, with sermons on the Sabbath, and reads a selection from the Liturgy every morning throughout the year. He says, "I have not, except in cases of sickness, administered the Sacrament lately; I used to do it, but got disgusted at the conduct of the prisoners. I found the worst of characters used to seek it for the purpose of obtaining some favour of me. I take the keys and go about the prison, and see the prisoners. From what I have seen, I do not think solitary confinement works any reformation upon practised thieves. I form the boys into classes: they are in a ward by themselves, under the superintendence of a wardsman. From the paucity of officers, the prisoners are frequently left in the sole charge of a wardsman. The tracts and books are under my superintendence. I have witnessed the prisoners in chapel, without shoes or stockings. There is no regular system of instruction. The prisoners not for labour, read to each other during the day. Upon an average, two-thirds of the prisoners know how to read. Our discipline is very much improved, especially as preventing contamination. There appears to be a general desire for instruction among the prisoners. They are provided with

elementary books. The great sources of crime here are the beer-shops, and the consequent intoxication."

The chaplain's journal contains simply the entries of his visits.

Labour.—The tread-wheels are placed in buildings of two stories. The inspection of the upper one is attended with some difficulty. There are partitions for separate labour.

SCALE OF TREAD-MILL LABOUR.

Months Employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its power.
January . } February . } March . }	6	40	8 inches.	One wheel 36, and the other 48 steps per minute.	One-third.	1,728	360	4 hours, by intervals of rest every 6 bells.	By a bell which rings at every revolution of the wheel.	None.
April . } May . } June . }	7	,,	,,		,,	1,764	420			
July . } August . }	8	,,	,,		,,	1,800	480			
September . } October . }	7	,,	,,		,,	1,764	420			
November . } December . }	6	,,	,,		,,	1,728	360			

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Southwell. House of Correction for Nottinghamshire.

A few of the prisoners are employed in frame work-knitting. There are five frames in separate rooms, which are let to the prison at a weekly rent of 1*s.* 6*d.* for a fine, and 1*s.* 3*d.* for a coarse one, the lessor engaging to take all the produce at a certain rate below the market price. This work is entirely confined to the convicted prisoners, who receive the extra allowance as wardsmen, and the earnings, averaging about 35*l.* annually, are credited to the county. The prisoners engaged in this work, upon my questioning them, said they preferred the frames to the tread-wheel for the additional allowance, and as being less irksome. They must move about at the wheels, and they can stop working at the frames. The taskmaster says, "It would be impossible to teach the prisoners this work with any success; the knitters generally serve an apprenticeship of seven years, and no man could learn in less than two. The females wash for the prisoners and the keeper, and are employed in seaming the stockings and drawers manufactured by the males, and in spinning when wool can be procured."

Accounts, Expenditure Books.—The provisions and stores are not supplied by contract. The visiting justices appoint the tradesmen, and their bills are sent in to the keeper, who checks them by his account of articles received; they are then laid before the visiting justices, examined, and sent to the sessions for further approval, and order for their payment. The treasurer sends a cheque for the amount to the keeper, which is paid into the local bank at Southwell, and one of the visiting justices draws cheques for the amount of each tradesman's account, who, on receiving the same, signs an acknowledgment in a book kept for the purpose. They likewise sign stamped receipts.

EXPENDITURE FROM OCTOBER SESSIONS, 1836, TO OCTOBER SESSIONS, 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
543 19 4	139 1 0	12 6 1	1 2 6	181 9 1	34 1 9	. .	. .

Officers' Salaries.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any.)	Repirs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
781 16 4	68 10 7	7 7 0	. .	334 4 5	37 13 2	. .	2,141 11 3
						Receipts .	191 17 8
							1,949 13 7

General Account Book.—Containing copies of all current accounts of disbursements for the prison.

Bread Book.—The bread is made in the prison, and the flour purchased from the millers at the market price. The taskmaster takes stock every quarter, and balances the book. The baking generally occupies from two to three days a-week.

Weekly Labour Book.—Containing a weekly account of the work done at each frame.

Milk Book.—Entries of the quantities delivered daily.

Extra Provision Book.—Particulars of extra allowances to sick and working prisoners.

Fine Book.—The fines are regularly paid to the overseers or the clerk of the peace at sessions, each signing the book in acknowledgment of the receipt.

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Southwell. House of Correction for Nottinghamshire.

Register.—Arranged under the usual heads.

General Discipline.—The silence system in a limited degree is enforced in this establishment, and from the statement of the officers and the prisoners themselves, there can be no doubt but the discipline of the prison is in a greatly improved condition. The task-master says, "The prison is greatly improved, the noise and cursing and swearing used to be terrible. In former times, the stockeners used to come, and did not mind it; they would carry away as much as 30*s.* after a three months' sojourn, and I have known 14*l.* or 15*l.* paid in a morning: they did not care for it." A turnkey says, "The prison is much improved; the old ones who have been before say they do not like it near so well." The keeper says, "The fines are much readier paid under the new system than before." The following are copies of letters from prisoners to their friends on the first introduction of the system, and before they were restricted from writing:—

Dear Wife, *Southwell House of Correction, September 4th,* 1836.

I should like to know whether you mean to get me out of this place or not, and if not, you must send me some things to shift me in. I would rather pay ten shillings a-week than stop in prison, for we are not allowed to speak to each other. If you can get me out, you must go to Worksop overseers, and get a note from them, and send it as early as possible.

Sir, *Southwell House of Correction, September 5th,* 1835.

You will please to tell John Greaves master John Calidine, that I hope he will fetch me out of this doleful place as soon as you possible can, and I will pay your expenses, and pay you for the time I have been away from you if you will fetch me out.

Dear Father and Mother, *Southwell Prison, December 31st,* 1835.

I take the oppertunity of addressing you with a few lines oping that you are In good Helth as it leaves me at present cosidering my unhappy situation. I little thaught when I came to this place As it ad been a sitch a place for punishment as thear is nothink but hungrey looks and starved gaws and doalsom walls and sowmettle bars to be seen all around me. I ope you will be so kind to pay the money as soon as you possable can at the prison door as I can receve my former liberty.

So I must coclude your Unfortinate son,

pleas cum to night without fail for my Bed is sitch a bad one that I shall be starved to Deth before morning.

Further evidence of the satisfactory working of the silence system is afforded by the annexed return, showing a considerable decrease in the numbers.

A RETURN of the Number of Prisoners in the House of Correction on the 5th day of March, for the last Six Years, marking the Year when the system of Silence was first introduced.

1832	1833	1834	1835 Silence first Introduced.	1836	1837
149	164	137	171	121	91

The centesimal proportion of re-committals to the average number of prisoners is about six.

I am quite satisfied that a great improvement has taken place in the discipline of this prison; and I am no less certain that a great deal more remains to be done before that perfection is attained of which the system is capable. The prisoners are left too often uncontrolled by day, without the presence of paid officers, and wholly so at night, there being no watchmen employed. One of the turnkeys states, in evidence,—"We have not officers to superintend the prisoners properly: it is impossible to keep strict silence in the way we are. We have not the officers to do it. They talk on Sundays when together, and at other times. They can talk with ease from cell to cell. Only the last week I detected four in different cells talking to each other, and abusing the chaplain, saying they should like to serve him out." Another says, "They talk to each other greatly of a night; in the garden we hear them frequently." A regular schoolmaster is much wanted. The employment of a prisoner as the agent for the inculcation of moral and religious instruction appears to me as indefensible in principle as it is worthless in practice. The silence discipline is but very imperfectly enforced if without the grateful and salutary intermittents administered through the chaplain and schoolmaster. I think, with a matron and under-matron in the prison, something more might be expected in the way of instructing the females. The matron, in evidence, says, "It is a month since the chaplain visited the female wards. There is no regular period for his doing so. The prisoners express no desire for his visits or instruction. I read to them sometimes, perhaps once a fortnight, not oftener." Frame-work knitters sentenced to hard labour are put to their own work, for which they receive an extra allowance of food. I look upon this employment, as they do themselves, much less onerous than the mill, and can see no just reason why they should enjoy the privilege of extra provisions when the men on the mill do not. It is the practice to appoint as wardsmen men who are failing in health, to keep down the expense of extra diet. The conduct

of these men is the same as in other prisons. I am of opinion that a general increase in the quality of the dietary, after six months, would be preferable. I annex a return of the number and description of prisoners receiving extra allowance of food, and the reasons for such allowance, on the day of inspection.

Name.	Description of Labour.	Imprisonment.	Offences.	Remarks.
H. S.	Lodge man .	6 calendar months	Game certificate . .	Imprisoned 3 calendar months previous to being made Lodge Man.
W. C.	Lodge man .	6 calendar months	Game certificate . .	In prison 6 calendar months previous. Ordered broth by surgeon.
H. B.	Wardman over boys.	3 calendar months	Misdemeanor in apprenticeship.	Constable who brought him stated that he bore an excellent character.
H. D.	Sick . . .	Want of sureties to appear at Sessions.	Articles of the peace administered by his father.	
T. H.	Sick . . .	3 calendar months	Non-payment of a highway rate, he acting as surveyor of roads.	
H. B.	Wardsman .	6 calendar months	Felony	66 years old, and too infirm for the wheel.
C. C.	Pumping . .	6 calendar months	Felony	Ulcerated leg; a boatman, and previously a free liver.
J. C.	Sick . . .	12 calendar months	Felony	
J. S.	Sick . . .	8 calendar months	Assaulting a constable	
H. B.	Wardsman .	3 calendar months not hard labour.	Misbehavour in the poor house. General conduct good.	
E. H.	Frame-work-knitter.	6 calendar months	Game certificate . .	3 calendar months previous imprisonment.
J. P.	Cooking . .	1 year . . .	Felony	Ruptured.
S. W.	Cooking . .	3 calendar months	Game Laws . . .	
J. M.	Baker . .	1 year . . .	Felony	
J. W.	Baker . .	6 calendar months	Felony	Labourers, and not connected with Nottingham.
W. G.	Baker . .	6 calendar months	Felony	
T. M.	Frame-work-knitter.	3 calendar months	Felony	Complains to the surgeon.
J. W.	Frame-work-knitter.	4 calendar months	Fishing	2 months before ordered broth, on the wheel, &c.
J. B.	Sick . . .	6 calendar months	Felony	
E. L.	Frame-work-knitter.	6 calendar months	Game certificate . .	3 months previous to broth being ordered.
J. B.	Frame-work-knitter.	3 calendar months	Game Laws . . .	
S. D.	Wardsman .	3 calendar months	Night poaching . .	Too old and infirm for the wheel.
W. L.	Wardsman .	3 calendar months	Game Laws . . .	
T. W.	Wardsman .	4 calendar months	Fishing	
R. P.	Seaming and Sick.	6 calendar months	Felony	
D. C.	Sick . . .	1 year	Felony	
J. R.	Sick . . .	3 calendar months	Game Laws . . .	
C. H.	Washing . .	1 year . .	Setting fire to a hovel	
M. E.	Washing . .	1 year . . .	Picking pockets . .	
S. S.	Sick, occasionally washing.	2 calendar months	Felony	
M. R.	Wardswoman	. . .	For trial on a charge of passing base coin	
M. G.	Washing . .	3 calendar months	Leaving her family .	

I think the number of prisoners thus employed, and subtracted from the ordinary discipline, might be reduced with advantage. Two of the prisoners mentioned in the above return are engaged all day at the exterior gate, one in domestic offices and in the garden of the keeper, the other in cleaning the prisoners, &c. when they come in; they dine together in the lodge. They may, and I believe do, communicate with the other prisoners. Occasionally some of the prisoners work in the garden, and have been detected carrying on communication with the women while so at work, and in sending letters through the iron railings. The lodge-keeper says, "The prisoners on coming in may have communication with the bath-man." The other lodge-man assists in cleaning the keeper's house, shoes, and other domestic offices. He is in and out of the house in the morning to fetch the things. The cooks and the prisoners at the lodges do not go to bed quite so early as the other prisoners. I see no reason whatever for these two prisoners being kept at the lodge; and I much question whether the pecuniary benefit, if any, arising to the county from the baking of the bread in the prison compensates for the injurious effects upon the discipline, by the withdrawal of three men from its operation,

and the knowledge afforded the criminal population that alleviating offices of this kind are still to be obtained. The airing-yards and wards for female prisoners are too much exposed: the windows of the cells should have blinds, and the railings of the yards be boarded up. The officers all speak of the inconvenience. The lodge-keeper, who resides opposite, says, "Nothing can be transacted in front without the women knowing; they are always at the windows after locking. Men working in the gardens have been caught several times talking to them, and giving notes through the iron railings." I recommend that the surgeon should be present at corporal punishments. I regard the want of gaol clothing and linen as one of the principal deficiencies of this establishment, of the latter article there are no more than 20 shirts for males, and four shifts for females, in the prison. In the surgeon's evidence, under the head of Health, it will be seen that the itch has been re-communicated to prisoners by resuming their own clothes after being cured. In addition, the matron says, "The female prisoners are not supplied with clothing. I have found great inconvenience from it. They have to remain undressed while their clothes are being purified; and many of their things are anything but improved by passing through the oven. They are at times scarcely decent to go to chapel. Four or five at chapel without shoes yesterday, when the inspector was present." A turnkey further says, "Several times we have found money and tobacco in the prison, which we have overlooked. It would be much better if there was a prison dress."

Solitary confinement, by sentence, is enforced by placing the prisoners in the ordinary sleeping-cells, and removing the bed and bedding during the day. They are allowed exercise in the mornings, and attend divine service on the Sabbath. A box is kept at the gate for the reception of charitable donations, which are laid out in soup and potatoes for the prisoners on Christmas-day.

Keeper.—Age 36. Appointed 1834. Salary 200*l.* Married. Coals, washing, and garden.

Matron.—Appointed 1836. Salary 60*l.* Coals, candles, and washing.

Under-Matron.—Appointed 1835. Salary 31*l.* 10*s.* Washing, coals, and candles.

Taskmaster.—Age 40. Appointed 1834. Salary 60*l.* Coals and candles. Resides in the prison. Read and write.

Turnkey.—Age 25. Appointed 1824. Salary 52*l.* Resides in the prison.

Lodge Keeper.—Age 31. Appointed 1826. Salary 52*l.* Coals and candles. Resides in prison. Read and write.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1830. Salary 130*l.* Vicar choral of the Collegiate Church, Southwell; vicar of Upton, two miles distant from Southwell. Resides a quarter of a mile from the prison.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1829. Salary 130*l.*, for attendance and medicines.

Note.—Since the Inspector's visit an additional turnkey has been appointed, whose particular charge is to superintend the prisoners not sentenced to hard labour. A night watchman has also been added to the establishment.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the HOUSE of CORRECTION for NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, at SOUTHWELL, from October 1836 to October 1837, with Different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws. Tried by a Jury.		Under the Game Laws. Summary Convictions.		Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
..	..	..	..	..	..	124	21	5	1	253	26	..	..	93	..	7	..	34	5	85	2	199	9	315	48	514	57	452	51	62	6

State of Education. . . { Can neither Read nor Write. Males, 192; Females, 16. | Can Read only. Males, 94; Females, 20. | Can Read and Write imperfectly. Males, 131; Females, 5. | Can Read and Write well. Males, 26; Females, 3.

The number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishments	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
..	..	54	1	14	1	11	2	..	..	79	4	87	6	117	14	45	9	5	none	425	60	86	none	none	83	273	47	11	10	none	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																						Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.			Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.								Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
								Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.										
To this Prison	65	37	5	2																								
Other Prisons	..	..	..	..																								
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.								Male.	Fem.			
	..	..	..	..	24		..	..	..	..	111	10	11	3	144	17	none	5	none.	11	13	12	Two divisions, each division in separate compartments for each prisoner.	2	Two compartments, male and female.	2	2	2	11	4½d.

NOTTINGHAM.—Borough Gaol.

This prison is attached to the Town-hall; the keeper's residence, consisting of five rooms, being in the basement; the debtor's apartments, seven in number, are irregularly and inconveniently placed in the first and second floors, and to reach them, the debtors have to pass the female ward, the door of which is of open iron-work; the windows also look directly into the airing-yards appropriated to females. The cells for the male criminals, below ground, are dark and damp. As a partial obviation of this latter inconvenience, chafing-dishes are occasionally put into them in the day-time. There is only one airing-yard for the male prisoners, with two day-rooms, so situated as to defy inspection. The chapel, contrary to law, is made use of as a sleeping-room for the debtors. There is no infirmary. The prison is secure from escape, but not entirely detached from other buildings. The airing-yards are paved. It is not fire-proof.

Dimensions of the Cells and Day-rooms for Criminal Prisoners.

Cell No. 1.—10 ft. 2 in. by 6 ft. 3 in.
„ 2.—10 ft. 2 in. by 6 ft.
„ 3.—9 ft. 6 in. by 6 ft.
„ 4.—7 ft. 11 in. by 7 ft. 10 in.
„ 5.—7 ft. by 6 ft.
„ 6.—7 ft. by 6 ft.
„ 7.—7 ft. 2 in. by 6 ft.
„ 8.—7 ft. 2 in. by 6 ft.
} 8 ft. high.

Day-rooms.
No. 1.—11 ft. by 10 ft. 3 in.
„ —12 ft. by 8 ft.
Yard.—54 ft. by 30 ft.
Female yard.—27 ft. by 18 ft.
Day-rooms.—11 ft. by 10 ft. and 10 ft. by 9 ft. } 8 ft. 6 in. high.

Diet.—1½ lbs. of best wheaten bread daily, and 1 pint of milk; 1 lb. of oatmeal weekly, with salt. Meat puddings and vegetables are allowed to be brought in to the untried, daily, from 12 till half past, and such of this class as are wholly destitute of means have an additional allowance of three pints of milk weekly. Debtors are permitted to purchase one quart of beer daily, a pint at a time. They all receive 1½ lb. of bread daily. A prisoner under sentence of transportation was allowed to receive food beyond the gaol allowance.

Clothing.—None allowed, except in cases of actual necessity.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, palliasse, bolster, three blankets, and a rug.

Fuel.—Coals allowed throughout the year, the quantity regulated by the weather.

Cleanliness.—The prison clean. The prisoners are made to wash themselves night and morning. Clean body linen once a-week.

Health.—The prisoners healthy. The venereal and eruptive diseases the most common. Rheumatic complaints were very prevalent in the prison last year. The surgeon visits the prison regularly twice a-week, and oftener when required. Considers the diet sufficient, but could not advise its being reduced. Speaking generally, he considers it equal to that of the agricultural labourer in the county; has experienced very great inconvenience from the want of an infirmary in the gaol; keeps two books arranged under the following heads: Name—age—sex—nature of disease—M | T | W | T | F | S | S—Days when attended.—wine and necessaries—Observations. The above journal is exhibited before the magistrates, at the police office, every week.

No. 2 *Journal.* No.—age—sex—occupation—disease or casualty—known or supposed disease or casualty—date of commitment, and whether in prison before commitment—treatment—day of termination—event—observations—number of sick. See table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs one service on a Sunday, and prayers twice a-week. He used to read prayers daily, but the corporation reduced his salary in 1826, and at the same time curtailed his duty from a daily service to what it is at present. No attempt is made to instruct either youths or adults. The chaplain says, "I have not had a sufficient supply of prayer-books for the last 10 years. I have no control over the introduction of books and tracts in the prison; many come in of which I know nothing until in the hands of the prisoners. Prisoners have applied to me for books; they have occasionally been supplied, but not in all cases. I have mentioned the deficiency of books so often in my reports, that I have been led to regard it with indifference. I have observed in the prisoners a desire to be instructed. The keeper does not always attend chapel, the matron never does; the female prisoners come to chapel under the superintendence of the keeper or turnkey. The debtors very rarely attend Divine service, they used to do so; they give me great cause of complaint in consequence of their misconduct. The noise made by them is sometimes so great, that I can scarcely hear myself read. It is some months since I have read to any of the prisoners." Keeps no private character book. The matron states, "she hears the female prisoners read four or five times a-week, and several who were unable have been taught."

Benefactions.—Able Collier bequeathed by Will, 4th February 1704, one shilling a-week, for ever, to be distributed among the poor debtors; this money is received by the keeper and applied only in the most urgent cases of distress. No box is kept in the prison.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The provisions are contracted for quarterly by public advertisement. The bills are sent in to the keeper, examined by the justices, laid before the town council for approval, and paid by the treasurer.

EXPENDITURE from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
99 13 3½	0 19 7	16 17 3¾ And female convicts' clothing 2*l.* 12*s.* 6½*d.*	12 1 0	27 8 2	. .	0 11 0 Blankets scouring.	3 6 0½

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
. .	. .	62 14 9	. .	33 5 7	6 15 4 And mops, brushes, and besoms, 13*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*	. .	279 11 3¼
						SALARIES.	
						Gaoler 200	
						Matron 10	260 0 0
						Turnkey 50	
						Total .	539 11 3¼

Books.—General account-book. Yearly average stock-book. Visiting-book. Debtors' register. Visiting magistrates' book. The general register is arranged under the following heads:—Names—height, ft. | in.—complexion and outline of face—colour, eyes—hair—marks—trade and residence—single or married—settlement—how obtained—parent's name—trade and residence—character and disposition—if in a prison, or convicted before—read and write—by whom and when committed—further examination for trial—offence and result of commitment.

General Discipline.—There is nothing meriting the name in this establishment. The separation even of the sexes is incomplete; communication is constantly taking place between the females and the debtors, which the construction of the building makes it quite impossible to prevent. A most improper practice is resorted to as some check to it, that of permitting the female prisoners to remain in their day-rooms until after the male debtors are locked up at night, the women, to get to their sleeping-cells, having to go through a part of the prison occupied by the former. On the day of inspection a convicted woman was in the same room with a female debtor. The keeper says, "There is no possibility of keeping the debtors entirely apart from the females; I have detected them in communication with the women under sentence of transportation." The females are allowed to have candles at night, if able to purchase them. They do all the washing, and are paid at the rate of one penny a shirt, and a halfpenny a pair of stockings. They also wash for the officers, and are paid by them for it, and have occasionally done so for the debtors. They are paid the money every Saturday; it has amounted to 2*s.* 6*d.* weekly, and is laid out for them in tea, sugar, and like articles, by the turnkey. A female prisoner is brought into the keeper's house to work for him, and is remunerated by extra food. The chaplain states, "that the noise of the debtors causes him considerable interruption in his duties;" and the turnkey says they are frequently playing at cards, and that they expect garnish. The matron does not attend the chapel, and the females are there without a female officer.

I recommend the incorporation of the town gaol of Nottingham, a building wholly unfit for its purposes, with the house of correction, which is quite sufficient for both. Should this not be legally practicable, the removal of all convicted prisoners there immediately after trial, particularly the transports, would at least be a relief. The washing for both prisons might, with facility and with more convenience, be done at the house of correction. As a proof of the total want of discipline, and the mischief of unchecked association, I annex a copy of a paper taken from a most notorious character lying there under sentence of transportation; it was composed by himself, another prisoner acting as his amanuensis, and it is said to contain a real account of his life and depredations.

My name is Isaac Holden, you very well do know,
And when I was ten years of age a robbing I did go;
It was out of my mother's box, as you the truth shall hear,
Seven spade-ace guineas I did take, I solemnly declare.

Then to the brick-yards I did go all for to earn my bread,
I had not been their many months before a thought came in my head,
James Gregg he had two ducks, as I very well did know,
Resolved I was to steal them, and have a glorious doo.

The next to Sison I did go in company with three more,
To Sir John Thurrold's orchard, where there was apples galore;
Seven strike of these apples we stole I do declare,
And for to bring these apples home we stole Abraham Clark's black mare.

It was not long after when a thought came in my head
That we could rob Bill Barneses shop, so to my pall said,
Theyres a great deal of money all in that shop I know,
I've got a key that will it fit, so come and let us go.

Then when we got into that shop, O how he did but stare
To see so many halfpence, a bag full I declare;
The amount of them was £50, and the weight was great you know,
We carried them unto the Whitham and in we did them throw.

Besides ten pounds in silver my boys we took away,
Which lasted us to spend my boys for many a good day;
And when it was all gone my lads we went unto our store,
For we knew when that was gone my lads we had got plenty more.

It was about three months after we went into his barn,
There we stole sixteen fine fouls, and thought it was no harm;
One couple of these fouls we eat, the rest we gave away,
And we thought God would reward us all in a future day.

To Buckminster the next I went apprentice to be bound,
And before I had been there six months I began to look around;
It was all at the publick house where I ofttimes used to go,
The landlord he had three fine geese, as you the truth shall know.

These geese I did condemn to die without the least fear,
And the very first opportunity I shifted them from there;
Me and my master cooked them, and of them we all did share,
And my master said I was the best lad that ever had been there.

O then unto the butcher's shop my master did me send
To fetch a leg of mutton to dine him and a friend;
And when that I had brought it he sent me back again
With the bill and the money to pay all for the same.

She put it in the cupboard where there was plenty more,
O then thinks I unto myself that will add to my store;
So when she went a milking I was on the look out,
And slyly went into the shop and fetched the booty out.

I rob'd my master of two pounds and then I ran away,
To Leicester town I did set off without any more delay,
Twas there I saw a mariene and with him I did list,
I thought I would a soldgier bee, for fear they should me twist.

And when that I was swore in my boys twas on that very day
I rob'd Mrs. Shipman of five pounds, that was a glorious day;
We stopt there and spent it and then we marched away,
It was to Woolwich that we went, for there the regiment lay.

I had not joind the regiment long before I was on the look out,
Then I spied a drunken sarjent whith his pocket book half out,
I made free for to take it and thought it was no harm,
And it contained 7*l.* 10*s.* and he made a great alarm.

Me and my palls to Greenwich went, being as it was the fair,
There we pickd up a sailor bold that was a sporting there,
We robd him of his bit of blunt, the truth I will declare,
It was but 1*l.* 5*s.*, but it helpt to keep the fair.

I now had left the regiment twelve months or rather more,
Then we robd lady Morgan, as you have heard before,
Of fifty pounds in money, and fifty more in plate,
It was enough I'm sure to buy a small estate.

William Longland he got hanged, and G. Hurst he went for life,
And I have remained a robber all the days of my life;
Jack Whittaker and Will Fielding from Yorkshire they came,
And whith me and Tom Kirkham did carry on the game.

O then to Grantham Church we went where there was blunt galore,
Three hundred pounds in money we got, and plate value of two more;
O what a row the next morning when the parson found it out,
O yes there was a pretty row, how the parson run about.

Then next we robd a horse-dealer, from Buckminster he came,
He was a swaggering horse-dealer, Bob Bartrum was his name,
We robd him of 100 pounds as from a fair he came,
And put a ball right through his hat when going down the lane.

O then to Cotgrave town I went without any more delay,
I am sure this is a roving blade the natives they did say;
From William Hill of Cotgrave two game fouls I did steal,
And fought the cock all for 5 pounds in a pair of silver heels.

This cock he fought at Suiston, an excellent battle to,
He was as black as jet, which a many people knew;
This cock had not fought long my boys before he won the prize,
But then I fought this cock again and he lost both his eyes.

Then I went to Cotgrave back again without either fear or doubt,
And when sitting in a publick house the constable fetched me out;
They said you have stole two fouls my man we very well do know,
And for the same offence six months to Southwell I did go.

So then I thought unto myself here I will not stay,
Then I steerd my course to Nottingham on an unhappy day;
I now had been in Nottingham about nine months, or rather more,
When I went to the horse and trumpet for to pay of a score.

Then as I was a sitting there getting a can of ale,
Who should come in but William Ward and offer two shirts for sale;
He asked me for to buy one, I said it was to good,
He sayd if it will not suit you, you perhaps know who it would.

It was on the forest these shirts were hung to dry,
Some scamping blade there came that way and on them cast his eye;
One of these shirts I sold Raph Brough as you do know,
And they belonged to Mr. Mills that lived on the Long Row.

It was a short time after Raph Brough he pawned the shirt,
And through that very action we both got in the dirt;
William Ward he got transported for seven long years,
And I went to the house of correction, that put away my fears.

Then about five years after for murder I got tried,
For murdering William Greendale the people they did say
Some base man and woman tried to swear my life away,
And since they have not prosperd up to the present day.

When I was ranged at the bar along with Adam Wagg,
Some sayd they will get hanged, and some they will get lagd;
But after all this, my boys, nothing they could doo,
There was a flaw in the inditement, and they had to let us go.

And now I am tried again for a trifling thing you know,
But for it across the erren pond for seven years must go;
It is for an old jacket that is nearly worn out,
But if ever I come back again I will that devil clout.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION SENTENCES, &c. of PRISONERS confined in the TOWN GAOL at NOTTINGHAM, from October 1836, to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons and Misdemeanors.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws. Tried by a Jury.		Under the Game Laws. Summary Convictions.		Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
80	1	..	..	..	..	68	9	66	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	2	..	..	..	..	148	10	55	8	13	1

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	No. of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishments.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male	Fem.														
11	..	..	..	13	3	13	1	..	2	24	3	$21\frac{96}{365}$	$2\frac{310}{365}$	35	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	73	..	..	..	3	52	..	7	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																									
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.								Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Tread-wheel, Houses or Divisions upon the Tread-wheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
							Cells where only One Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than One Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where One Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than One Prisoner Sleeps.				Light.	Dark.	Apartments below Ground											
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.										Male.	Fem.			
To this Prison	10	5	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	Two Sleeping Rooms.	40	10	..	..	..	3	4	1	..	1	[a]	..	..	1 Bath.	3	$2\frac{3}{4}$ Within a Fraction.
Other Prisons	12	..	..	..																										
	22	5	..	..																										

[a] Temporary Division as the Male and Female cannot see each other.

NOTTINGHAM.—Borough House of Correction.

This house of correction, or "St. John's" prison, so termed from occupying the site of a religious house, is conveniently situated for its purpose in the town of Nottingham. Shortly after the passing of the Gaol Acts, this prison was enlarged, or rather reconstructed, upon the principles of classification then introduced. The design contemplated was that of an unequal square, with the keeper's dwelling in the centre. Two sides have, however, only been completed, each three stories high, with day-rooms on the ground floors, and sleeping cells on the upper. A portion of the old, irregular, and inconvenient buildings were allowed to remain, and were converted into apartments for the keeper, and wards for the female prisoners. The prison stands in an extensive area, enclosed, except at the south-west angle, with a boundary wall surmounted with courses of loose bricks. Where the enclosure is imperfect, the windows in the galleries and staircases look upon the street. The entrance fronts St. John's Street; the lodge is connected with other buildings, and comprises apartments for a turnkey, drop room, reception cells, and tread-wheel sheds. The accommodation for the keeper adjoining consists of a room for the magistrates, parlour, office, kitchen, cellarage, and three chambers. The chapel is in the centre of the principal wing, and is divided for male and female prisoners. The airing-yards are paved, and separated from each other by walls. Many of the sleeping cells have fire-places; they are all arched, with the exception of those occupied by the females, which are ceiled with lath and plaster. The keeper, from the inconvenient position of his house, has no inspection over the part occupied by the male prisoners, and that allotted for the confinement of females is too small, is likewise deficient in ventilation, and contains but one airing-yard for all classes. The windows of the sleeping cells of the male prisoners look directly into the women's wards, and require blinds. The tread-wheels, placed in the south-west corner and most insecure part of the prison, are inconvenient for access and inspection.

Dimensions of the Cells, Day-rooms, &c.—Male Side of the Prison.

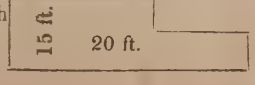
BASEMENT STORY.					SLEEPING CELLS.				
Day Rooms.		Airing-yards.			Second Story.		Third Story.		
No.	Ft. In. Ft. In.	Ft. In. Ft. In.			No.	Ft. In. Ft. In.	No.	Ft. In. Ft. In.	
1	15 0 by 13 0	23 0 by 19 6			1	9 6 by 6 4	1 & 2	12 0 by 8 0	
2	Wheel-yard, no day room.	21 0 by 14 0			2	,, ,,	3	8 9 by 6 0	
3	Cock-house.				3	,, ,,	4	,, ,,	
	24 0 by 14 0	18 6 by 13 6			4	9 6 by 6 6	5	9 0 by 6 6	
4	27 0 by 14 10	30 0 by 26 0			5	,, ,,	6	,, ,,	
5	9 9 by 9 6	24 0 by 13 6			6	,, ,,	7	,, ,,	
6	17 6 by 9 6	29 0 by 19 3			7	,, ,,	8	,, ,,	
7	14 2 by 9 6	36 0 by 17 6			8	,, ,,	9	,, ,,	
8	24 6 by 9 6	47 0 by 19 10			9	,, ,,	10	,, ,,	
9	12 9 by 9 6	56 0 by 14 7			10	,, ,,	11	,, ,,	
10	19 8 by 10 6	61 0 by 12 10			11	,, ,,	12	,, ,,	
11	22 10 by 10 6	44 9 by 22 10			12	,, ,,	13	,, ,,	
12	14 2 by 10 6	31 0 by 20 2			13	,, ,,	14	,, ,,	
13	20 4 by 10 6	22 6 by 18 3			14	14 6 by 9 6	15	9 6 by 8 0	
14	12 4 by 10 6	25 6 by 20 0			15	18 9 by 9 6	16	,, ,,	
					16	11 0 by 9 6	17	,, ,,	
					17	13 6 by 9 6	18	,, ,,	
					18	15 8 by 9 6	19	,, ,,	
					19	23 0 by 10 6	20	13 6 ,,	
					20	23 0 by 10 6	21	,, ,,	
					21	14 2 by 9 10	22	9 6 ,,	
					22	9 6 by 6 6	23	12 3 ,,	
					23	12 4 by 10 6	24	9 6 by 6 6	
					24	9 6 by 6 6	25	12 4 by 10 6	
					25	12 4 by 10 6	26	9 6 by 6 6	
							27	12 4 by 10 6	
					The Sleeping Cells are from 9 ft. 6 in. to 10 ft. 6 in. high.				

FEMALE SIDE.

BASEMENT STORY.

	Ft. In.	Ft. In.
Day-room	13 6 by	13 6
Work-room	12 3 by	12 3
Airing-yard	23 0 by	21 6

Washhouse in form of the annexed diagram, with a bath for the females.



DIMENSIONS OF THE CELLS, DAY-ROOMS, &c.—*continued.*

SLEEPING CELLS.

Second Story.					Third Story.					Fourth Story.				
No.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	No.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	No.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
1	12	9	by 5	6	5	10	0	by 5	6	9	8	3	by 5	6
2	12	9	by 5	6	6	10	0	by 5	6	10	8	3	by 5	6
3	12	9	by 6	3	7	10	0	by 5	6	11	7	0	by 6	0
4	12	9	by 6	3	8	10	0	by 5	6	12	7	0	by 6	0
										13	7	0	by 6	0

RECEPTION CELLS.

No.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	
3	9	0	by 5	9	each.
1	8	6	by 8	0	,,
2	8	0	by 7	2	,,
1	10	0	by 6	6	,,
1	10	0	by 9	3	,,

DROP ROOM.

Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
20	9	by 12	3

CHAPEL.

Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
46	6	by 16	6

Two rooms, 8 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft., used as an armoury, containing 100 stand of tower muskets and bayonets, 43 pistols of various sizes, and 6 cutlasses.

THE TREAD-WHEELS.

No.	Length of the Wheels	Height of each Step.	No. of Men each Wheel will contain besides relays.	No. of Steps on each Wheel.
	Ft. In.	In.		
1	13 3	7	7	27
2	14 3	,,	7	,,
3	9 6	,,	5	,,
4	15 6	,,	8	,,

The tread-wheels are occasionally employed in pumping water. The pumps cannot be worked with less than 18 men on the wheels.

Diet.—Breakfast, a pint and a half of milk porridge, made with a pint of milk and 2½ ounces of oatmeal. Dinner, 1 pint of soup, 1 lb. of beef, without bone, and half a peck of potatoes, is allowed weekly to each prisoner, and is made into soup. Supper, 1½ pints of gruel. Males, 1½ lbs. of bread; females, 1 lb. of bread, daily. The two cooks have an extra allowance of 6 ounces of meat.

Clothing.—Felons, a suit of party-coloured frieze, red and brown, shoes, linen. Misdemeanants, suit of brown frieze. Women, striped cotton bed-gowns, linsey-woolsey petticoats, linen, shoes.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, straw mattress, two blankets, and rug. Sheets for females.

Cleanliness.—The prison and prisoners clean.

Health.—The surgeon attends twice a-week, and oftener if required. He is present at corporal punishments, and inspects the prisoners previous to their being classed. The ordinary diseases are itch, venereal, and rheumatisms. He states, "he always visits prisoners when undergoing solitary confinement. Several soldiers have undergone their sentences of solitary imprisonment in the house of correction. Two of them experienced ill effects from the close confinement, which disappeared upon their being permitted, at his recommendation, to walk in the open air for an hour, or more, after the other prisoners were locked up. In the case of two boys, sentenced to solitary confinement for a month, upon one it had not the slightest effect, upon the other it had some upon his spirits, none upon his appetite. One prisoner, a boy, named J., was sentenced to two months solitary; he had never been subject to fits, and although he has been in prison repeatedly since, I am not aware he has ever had any return; but such was the effect of the solitary confinement upon his mind at the time, that I felt convinced, if it had been persisted in, such would have been the case." The circumstances are thus detailed in the keeper's journal:—"J. J., aged 16, sentenced at the January sessions, 1835, to six months' imprisonment, two of which were to be solitary. February the 12th, the first day of the solitary part of the sentence being carried into effect, found lying on the floor of his bed-cell insensible, (by William Hallam, turnkey,) who immediately reported the same to the governor; Mr. Davis, the surgeon, was sent for, and found him in the state described; he was ordered directly into the sick ward, and was some time before he recovered his senses. February 16th, two visiting justices, with the surgeon, ordered that J. J. should not be put again into solitary confinement, on account of his health." The surgeon further states, "He frequently examines the provisions; that the diet is, generally speaking, equal to that of the agricultural labourer in the county, but that he would not advise its being reduced." There is no regular infirmary, and great inconvenience resulted therefrom at the period of the cholera. Books kept by him the same as at the borough gaol. Number of Sick, see *Table.*

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs one full service on the Sabbath, and reads prayers twice during the week. No attempt is made to instruct either the boys or adults. The only absentees from Divine service are the cooks. The chaplain says "the females are under the superintendence of the matron, who instructs them daily; I have not examined them as to their progress; I do not consider I have anything to do with the females except in the chapel. Previous to the reduction of my salary I considered it my duty to conform to the Gaol Act as nearly as possible, but since that I have not done so. The keeper does not attend chapel; the turnkey always does; the matron generally; occasionally the

females have come to chapel without the presence of a female officer; the turnkey's wife has brought them there and left them. I have never communicated to the magistrates the non-attendance of the officers. I think the fear of transportation is increasing; I have heard them express a dread of what they term the new transportation law." The matron states, "Those mornings when service is not performed in the chapel I assemble the prisoners for prayer and reading of the Scriptures." The chaplain keeps no private character book.

Labour.—Tread-wheel and employment in the keeper's garden, carpentering, and white-washing for the males. The females at washing and mending the prisoners' and officers' linen.

SCALE OF TREAD-MILL LABOUR.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
Each month in the Year.	From April to September inclusive 9 hours, the remaining six months will average 7½ hours.	27	7 inches.	About 48 steps per minute; but not having self-acting regulator to the fly, it is found impossible to keep up a regular speed.	Two-thirds.	9 hours, 15,120 feet; 7½ hours, 12,600 feet.	9 hours, 960 feet; 7½ hours, 800 feet.	9 hours, 10,080 feet; 7½ hours, 8400 feet.	A Bell is attached to the machinery, which rings at every two revolutions of the wheel.	Pumping water occasionally.

Offences and Punishments.—The usual prison offences are misbehaviour on the wheel, violent and disorderly conduct, punished by stoppage of food and confinement in a dark cell. Corporal punishment is inflicted by a man hired for the purpose. The surgeon is always present. It is merely nominal as to severity, and has been inflicted upon adults as well as boys without any effect. Number of Offences, see *Table.*

Scourge.—Whip handle 18 inches long; nine lashes of common whipcord 18 inches long, each with four single knots.

Irons.—Weight 6 lbs. 5 ounces.

Visits and Letters,—Visits are permitted by order of a magistrate, not to exceed ten minutes in duration. Letters are written by the prisoners on a slate, and copied and sent by the keeper.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—Provisions and other articles for the supply of the prison are contracted for quarterly. The keeper supplies the vegetable for the prisoners' soup, for which he is allowed sixpence weekly. The bills are sent to the prison to be examined by the visiting justices, then laid before the town-council for approval. The treasurer pays all the bills except the trifling amounts included in that of the keeper under the head of sundries.

EXPENDITURE FROM MICHAELMAS, 1836, TO MICHAELMAS, 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£ s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
385 3 10½	3 9 0	40 15 8	43 8 11½	101 10 2	3 6 0	. .	0 10 0

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any.)	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
3 6 4	0 16 0	. .	. .	76 7 9	59 13 9	. .	718 7 6
						Governor .	150 0 0
						Chaplain .	60 0 0
						Matron . .	25 0 0
						Surgeon . .	42 0 0
						Turnkey . .	57 4 0
						Ditto . . .	58 11 0
						Total . . £	1111 2 6

Books.

Visiting Magistrates' Book.—Containing orders and dates of visits.

Receipt and Delivery Book.—Containing particulars and amount of the articles supplied for the prison.

Bread Book.—With an account of the daily issue of bread.

Stock Book.—An inventory of clothing in store and use.

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Keeper's Journal.—Containing occurrences and punishments.

Register.—Arranged under the following heads:—Number—prisoners' names—age—by whom and when committed—offence, and for what time committed. Constable's description, feet, inches—complexion—eyes—hair—prisoner's account of his place of abode and trade, &c. —when discharged, or otherwise disposed of.

General Discipline.—The discipline of this prison is of a very inferior order. The prisoners still occupy the day-rooms, which are so situated as to defy inspection. The tread-wheels are so placed as to render detection of misbehaviour on them very difficult, which might be greatly remedied by fitting them with partitions. Upon the day of inspection the prisoners were sleeping two in a cell, in direct opposition to the law, although a considerable portion of the prison was unoccupied, quite sufficient to admit of a separate night cell for each. The duties of a chaplain are very imperfectly executed. No attempt is made to instruct the prisoners, with the single exception of the hour passed in the chapel; the Sabbath is spent in talking, lounging, idling, and playing in the day-rooms; the utensils in them are scored for draughts and other games. On attending Divine service I found the prisoners without a single Prayer-book, although generally able to read. The keeper does not attend Divine service. He states in explanation, "There being only a female at the gate, and prisoners being often brought in at the time, he does not consider it safe." A very serious inconvenience results from the matron not residing in the prison, and leaving it to take her meals. During the night, and at such periods, the female prisoners are left without the control of a female officer; and the keeper states that he has frequently been under the necessity of punishing them for misconduct. The matron, though aged, is a very respectable and conscientious person, performing her duties well when present, and the above remarks are not intended to apply to the contrary. Prisoners are constantly at work in the keeper's garden without any superintendence. The turnkey states, "that tobacco, meat, cheese, notes, and other articles come occasionally over the walls; this generally happens after some of them have gone out, who go to the friends of others and direct them where to throw them over. They steal each other's food; and idle talk and skylarking is always going on in the day-rooms. The prisoners have frequently asked me for books. I have heard them talk about different prisons. Derby they say is most hard, and disliked more than any; Southwell is better, for they get there a penny a-day when they come out. The Town Gaol is better than any, because their friends can bring them provisions. Has frequently known thieves to be at the gate ready to receive their former associates on discharge; is quite sure that the dread of transportation for a second offence is very beneficial; knows several in the town who have been in gaol and once convicted, who have since kept out from that fear. Several prisoners have applied to the magistrates to be permitted to remain in the prison, as they had no means of getting their living out of doors." The keeper says, "I think there is an increasing dread of transportation among the prisoners; I have heard it frequently mentioned when going through the passages of a night, that the severity of it has been much increased." Among the entries of visitors to the prison, in the keeper's book, I find the following: "July 15 1837, George Charles Smith, and six orphans, to visit the prisoners and distribute religious tracts." The keeper states "the children were dressed as soldiers and sailors, one in a highland uniform. The above-named individual addressed the prisoners, and distributed tracts; I really hesitated about admitting the children, and asked what possible good it could do to bring them to such a place. He also addressed the females." The turnkey says, "I went round with Mr. Smith, he addressed the prisoners, and distributed tracts. He brought six boys with him, about nine or ten years of age, dressed in uniform. The prisoners could not at all make out what it meant." I consider visits of this description as extremely improper in a prison, and not less so the distribution of tracts without the knowledge of the chaplain. The deficiencies in this prison and the gaol have been laid before the magistrates, who have manifested every desire for their remedy, and have already provided a separate sleeping-room for each male prisoner.

Officers.

Keeper.—Age 43; appointed 1833; formerly a police constable; salary 150*l.*, coals, candles, washing, garden.

Turnkey.—Age 53; appointed 1817; frame-work knitter; read and write; resides in the prison; married; salary 54*l.* 12*s.*, coals, and candles.

Mill-Watch.—Age 52; appointed 1826; formerly in the Nottingham militia; married; resides in the prison; read and write; salary 54*l.* 12*s.*, coals, and candles.

Matron.—Age 69; appointed 1820; salary 25*l.*; does not reside in the prison.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1819; salary 60*l.*; is chaplain to the gaol; no other cure of souls.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1820; salary 42*l.* for medicines and attendance.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Conviction.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.		In Custody at the Commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.															
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
..	..	..	..	2	3	42	11	4	1	76	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	53	5	38	7	32*	5*	145	20	215	32	185	27	30	5
																				Under Commitment for want of Sureties				33	8	33	8	33	8		
																								176	28	248	40	218	35		

State of Instruction . .	Can neither Read nor Write.	Can Read only.	Can Read or Write, or both imperfectly.	Can Read and Write well.	Total.
	Males, 76; Females, 13.	Males, 72; Females 17.	Males, 72; Females, 10.	Males, 28.	Males, 248; Females, 40.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be whipped.		Labour and Employment.				Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Death.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being Hard Labour.	Not Employed.		Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.																
..	..	19	6	29	7	..	..	48	13	48	13	49	$10\frac{23}{365}$	59	13	2	..	1	..	197	40	51		..	..	40	42	67	40	15	..	..	..
Re-examination on Charges of Felony .										8	1																			Including trivial cases.	Cannot be answered.	
										56	14																						

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																								Cost of Diet Prison per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.										Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day-rooms.	Work-rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
						Cells where only One Prisoner sleeps and walks.		Cells where more than One Prisoner sleeps and walks.		Cells where One Prisoner sleeps only.		Cells where more than One Prisoner sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground											
To this Prison	41	11	15	23	Male. 20	Male. ..	Fem ..	Male. ..	Fem. ..	Male. 16	Fem. 2	Male. 18	Fem. 4	In separate Cells. 56	Fem. 13	None but the common bed-cells.	2	..	13 Besides the Cooking, Kitchen, and Airing-Yard attached to it.	14	..	4	8	2	Male. 1	Fem ..	2	13	$4\frac{62}{365}$
Other Prisons	5	2	..	..	3																								

* From the Town Gaol after Trial.

NOTTINGHAM.—Town Lock-ups.

II. Northern and Eastern District.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Nottingham. Town Lock-ups.

Adjoining the house of correction, but unconnected with it, are the town lock-ups, consisting of apartments for the keeper and two rooms for prisoners on the ground-floor, and two on the first, of the following dimensions:—

No. 1.—9 ft. 1 in. by 12 ft. 2 in.
No. 2.—9 ft. by 7 ft. } 8 ft. 2 in. high.

The cells on the upper floor are of the same breadth and width as those below, their height is 9 ft. 5 in. The keeper resides on the premises, and is paid 18*s.* a-week. The lock-ups were clean and in good order. A very proper register is kept, arranged under the following heads:—Number—name—age—trade or occupation—residence—constable—offence charged with—how disposed of, and remarks. The following return of the number of prisoners who have passed through the lock-ups for three years last past has been made up therefrom.

A Statement of the Number of Prisoners confined in the Watch-house, Nottingham, during the Years—

	1835.		1836.		1837.	
	Males.	Females	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Number of Prisoners under 18 years of age	66	10	62	9	75	8
Number of Prisoners 18 years of age and upwards	403	118	656	107	656	104
Totals	469	128	718	116	731	112

GAOL FOR THE HONOUR AND ADDITIONAL LIMITS OF PEVERIL, AT LENTON.

The Liberty to which this prison is appended comprises the counties of Nottingham and Derby, with parts of Leicestershire and Yorkshire, all borough towns within the limits being specially excepted from its jurisdiction. This ancient jurisdiction, which was first bestowed by the Conqueror on his son William de Peveril, has frequently reverted to the Crown, and has as frequently been granted anew. Lord Middleton is the present high steward, and the deputy who presides in the court must be a barrister of three years' standing. All actions, where the damage is under 50*l.*, may be tried in this court, which sits three times a-year for the hearing of causes. The writs are returnable every Tuesday. The letters-patent of Charles II. to Lord Goring authorize the establishment of a prison in the following words:—

"We will further, and by these presents do ordain, that there may be, and from henceforth for ever shall be, in any convenient place within the Honour aforesaid, in the said counties of Nottingham and Derby, or the additional limits thereof, to be supported by the high steward, or by the court of the said Honour for the time being, a prison for the safe custody of the prisoners committed and taken to the said prison; and that the principal serjeant at mace for the time being, or other fit person, shall have, and from henceforth, ever, may and shall be able to have, the custody of the said prison, and of the prisoners committed or to be committed or taken or to be taken to the same."

This prison stands in the village of Lenton, a mile and a half from Nottingham. It adjoins a tavern called "the White Hart," where the courts are held, to which is appended a sort of suburban tea-garden and bowling-green, and which, being within the precincts, the prisoners have the use. The premises occupied as the prison are a few yards apart from the tavern, and consist of a brick building in a dilapidated and neglected state, the window-sashes out of repair, and many of the panes of glass broken, and is seldom, if ever, visited by those having the superior control. It consists of 5 rooms of the following dimemions:—

Ground Floor.

Room No. 1.—14 ft. 9 in. by 12 ft. 2 in., 7 ft. 8 in. high,
„ No. 2.—14 ft. by 12 ft. 2 in., 7 ft. 8 in. high, } with brick floors.

First Floor.

Sleeping room, No. 1.—16 ft. 2 in. by 12 ft. 11 in., 7 ft. high.
„ No. 2.—14 ft. 2 in. by 12 ft. 6 in., 7 ft. high.
„ No. 3.—9 ft. 5 in. by 12 ft. 6 in.

Fire-places in each, but no locks nor other security to the doors.

When there is not sufficient room within the prison, prisoners are accommodated in the tavern. The business of the court is stated to be increasing. The following appears to have been the numbers of debtors imprisoned during the understated periods:—

1834 32
1835 25
1836 17
1837 30

This prison is altogether unfit for its purpose, and has no effectual provision for the separation of the sexes. The prisoners are subjected to the exaction of garnish; 3*s.* 6*d.* is charged to each for liquor, and 1*s.* 6*d.* for coals upon their coming in. On the morning of inspection the prisoners consisted of five men and three women, with one day-room in common.

The exterior doors were all wide open, the keeper informing me "he had no fear of escape from the present occupants; that three weeks previously there were 16 males and 8 females; the men at that time were most disorderly." He gives no bond, but supposes he is liable in case of escape. No medical assistance is provided, nor does any clergyman ever attend. The prisoners suffer greatly in the winter, and are constantly borrowing from the keeper. Lord Middleton sends two tons of coals as a gift every New Year's-day. The keeper states, "the only compensation he receives is a fee of 4*s.* 6*d.* upon each trial and inquiry, that the person whom he succeeded in 1835 was allowed 13*s.* 4*d.* upon the discharge of each prisoner out of the county rate. When he obtained the situation, he applied to the magistrates at sessions as usual, but they refused to sanction the continuance of such payment."

The abolition of this prison would be a public benefit.

NEWARK.—BOROUGH GAOL.

Newark. Borough Gaol.

This prison is connected with the poor house, and occupies both sides of a gateway, being the public entry to the latter establishment. It contains two cells on the ground floor, and two above, of the following dimensions :—

Ground Floor.

No. 1.—21 ft. by 11 ft.
No. 2.—11 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. 6 in.

First Floor.

No. 1.—21 ft. by 11 ft.
No. 2.—18 ft. by 12 ft.

An airing-yard 25 ft. by 10 ft. A room over the gateway is appropriated to debtors. The keeper's apartments occupy one side of it. There is a dungeon below ground, which, since the occurrence of an accident, has been disused, for the confinement of prisoners.

The keeper is allowed 4*d.* a day for the subsistence of prisoners. He provides them with bread to the amount of 3*d.*, 1 lb. 10 oz. best wheaten, and a pint of milk daily. No Divine service is ever performed. Bibles and Testaments are supplied. The parish surgeon attends when required. This prison is wholly unfit for any purpose beyond that of a lock-up. There are no privies, no effectual separation of the sexes, and the accommodation for the debtors is of the very humblest description. No female is appointed to attend upon the women. The grant of Quarter Sessions to this borough was accorded on the understanding that all prisoners upon committal should be sent under an existing contract to the house of correction at Southwell. This appears not to have been complied with, for, upon looking over the keeper's books, I find the following prisoners to have been detained here for corrective discipline since August, 1836 :—

R. E. Assault, 21 days, August 8, 1836.
A. T. Assault, 1 month, Nov. 10, 1836.
E. C. Assault, 2 months, July 10, 1837.
M. H. Assault, 1 month, July 31, 1837.
J. F. Vagrancy, 7 days, July 17, 1837.
J. S. Assault, 2 months, July 31, 1837.

Two males and two females of the above were undergoing imprisonment on the day of inspection. It is moreover the practice of the magistrates, the week or fortnight preceding the borough sessions, to commit them here for trial. The greatest number of prisoners at one time has been six. The greatest number of debtors, three. A female debtor, liberated on the 1st of February, 1837, remained here five months in custody. The contract price with the county for the lodging, clothing, and maintenance of the borough prisoners, is at the rate of 11¾*d.* per day.

Keeper appointed 1828. Formerly constable. Salary 20*l.* Formerly received 25*l.* a-year, paid out of the county rate in lieu of fees.

I have every reason to believe, from the representation made, that the practice of sentencing prisoners for any period in this gaol will be from henceforth discontinued, and that it will be applied solely to the purposes of a lock-up for temporary detention.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

LINCOLN CASTLE.—COUNTY GAOL.

Lincoln Castle. County Gaol.

The gaol for the county, an unpretending brick elevation, together with the assize courts, designed by Sir Robert Smirke in the castellated style, occupy but a small part of the extensive site of the ancient castle of Lincoln. The enclosure within the walls contains 6A. 3R. 37P. The castle, as it is still termed, although little of the old structure remains, is entered by a double gateway; in the intermediate space between the gates is a porter's lodge and offices for the clerk of the indictments and county surveyor. Considerable sums have, from time to time, been expended in preserving and restoring the ancient walls with which the area is still begirt, and it is to be regretted that a former keeper was permitted the liberty of interfering with these interesting relics, and erecting, among other incongruous objects, the

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gazebo or summer-house in the angle near the gate. The open space in the castle-yard is laid out in garden and shrubbery. The ancient keep is appropriated as a place of interment for such prisoners as die within the walls or suffer the extreme sentence of the law. The gaol buildings were erected in 1789: they consist of a centre and two small pavilions, or wings of three stories. The keeper's apartments comprise, in the basement, kitchen and cellerage; ground floor, magistrate's room and two parlours; first floor, six chambers; second floor, three chambers. The day-rooms, still made use of by the prisoners, are very ill situated for inspection. The infirmary is not detached, and consists but of a small room on the first floor, the window most inconveniently looking into one of the airing-yards. The chapel, from some defect in the foundation, appears in a dangerous state, and is only preserved from falling by props.

On the Ground Floor.

No. 1, Day-room for males convicted.—15 ft. 4 in. by 9 ft. 2 in.
No. 2, Day-room for males for trial.—12 ft. 1 in. by 9 ft. 10 in.
No. 3, Ditto ditto. —11 ft. 7 in. by 10 ft. 2 in.
No. 4, Ditto for males convicted.—19 ft. 7 in. by 9 ft. 7 in.

On the Lower Floor.

No. 1, Day-room for males for trial.—12 ft. 9 in. by 8 ft. 3 in.
No. 2, Ditto for females for trial.—13 ft. 4 in. by 8 ft. 7 in.
No. 3, Used for the prison kitchen.—17 ft. 6 in. by 8 ft. 3 in.
No. 4, Day-room for males convicted.—9 ft. 2 in. by 8 ft. 3 in.
Turnkey's room.—12 ft. by 10 ft. 6 in.
Officers' hall and kitchen.—20 ft. 7 in. by 9 ft. 7 in.

No. 1, Sleeping-room.—8 ft. 8 in. by 5 ft. 8 in.
No. 2, Ditto.—8 ft. 8 in. by 5 ft. 6 in.
No. 3, Ditto.—8 ft. 8 in. by 5 ft. 4 in.
No. 4, Ditto.—8 ft. 8 in. by 6 ft.
No. 5, Ditto.—8 ft. 8 in. by 5 ft. 10 in.
No. 6, Ditto.—8 ft. 8 in. by 5 ft. 9 in.

NOTE.—All the above rooms are vaulted with brick-work, and are 11 ft. high.

On the Chamber Floor.

No. 1, Sleeping-room, dark, used for stores.—12 ft. 3 in. by 8 ft.
No. 2, Ditto.—12 ft. 1 in. by 9 ft.
No. 3, Infirmary.—12 ft. 6 in. by 9 ft.
No. 4, Sleeping-room.—11 ft. 7 in. by 9 ft.
No. 5, Ditto.—19 ft. 5 in. by 9 ft.
No. 6, Ditto.—20 ft. by 9 ft. 3 in.
No. 7, Ditto.—11 ft. 10 in. by 9 ft. 3 in.
No. 8, Ditto.—10 ft. 2 in. by 10 ft.
No. 9, Ditto.—10 ft. 2 in. by 10 ft.
No. 10, Chapel.—28 ft. by 27 ft. 6 in.

NOTE.—All these rooms are vaulted with brick-work, and are 12 ft. 3 in. high.

Debtors' Apartments on the Ground Floor.

Day-room for master debtors.—19 ft. 4 in. by 11 ft 1 in., by 11 ft. 6 in. high.
Ditto for certificate debtors, First Class.—15 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in.
Ditto ditto, Second Class.—20 ft. 4 in. by 17 ft.
Solicitors' and school-room.—15 ft. 7 in. by 10 ft. 6 in.
Visiting-room.—22 ft. 10 in. by 15 ft. 8 in.

These rooms are 12 ft. 8 in. in height.

On the Chamber Floor.

No. 1, Turnkeys' and officers' sleeping-room.—21 ft. 4 in. by 8 ft. 9 in., and 11 ft. high.
No. 2, Debtors' sleeping-room.—19 ft. 4 in. by 11 ft. 2 in., by 11 ft. 6 in. high.
No. 3, Ditto ditto. —15 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft. 6 in., by 11 ft. 6 in. high.
No. 4, Ditto ditto. —20 ft. 3 in. by 17. ft., by 11 ft. 6 in high.
No. 5, Ditto ditto. —17 ft. 1 in. by 15 ft. 7 in., by 11 ft. 2 in. high.
No. 6, Matron's room.—17 ft. 1 in. by 15 ft. 6 in., by 11 ft. 6 in. high.

On the Attic Floor.

No. 7, Used as a store-room for oatmeal, &c.—11 ft. 4 in. by 7 ft. 8 in., by 10 ft. 6 in. high.
No. 8, Debtors' sleeping-room.—20 ft. by 11 ft. 2 in., by 9 ft. 11 in. high.
No. 9, Ditto ditto. —15 ft. 9 in. by 15 ft. 11 in., by 9 ft. 11 in. high.
No. 10, Ditto ditto. —20 ft. 5 in. by 17 ft. 5 in., by 9 ft. 11 in. high.
No. 11, Ditto ditto. —16 ft. 11 in. by 15 ft. 10 in., by 9 ft. 11 in high.
No. 12, For female debtors.—15 ft. 9 in. by 17 ft. 4 in., by 9 ft. 11 in. high.
No. 13, For females before trial.—14 ft. 3 in. by 16 ft. 9 in. by 9 ft. 11 in. high.
No. 14, For females convicted.—15 ft. 1 in. by 16 ft. 8 in., by 9 ft. 11 in. high.
No. 15, Matron's store-room.—21 ft. 5 in. by 11 ft. 5 in., by 9 ft. high.

The following Report, made by Sir Robert Smirke on the state of the old walls, has been adopted, and the recommendations carried into effect by the magistrates:—

"*Stratford Place, 26th June*, 1833.

"I have, according to the desire of the magistrates, examined the walls surrounding the area of the castle; and I have the satisfaction to report that, although they are of very remote antiquity, and are, in some parts, apparently much dilapidated, I am of opinion that they may yet be preserved for many years in a state perfectly sufficient for the purposes of a gaol.

"The secure confinement of the prisoners must, doubtless, be the first consideration of the magistrates; but the high antiquarian interest connected with these walls will, I am persuaded, always induce them to require that they shall be preserved as long as it is possible.

"The walls are, for the most part, of very great thickness, and if due attention be given to the preservation of the exterior and upper surface of them, and if means are also taken to prevent the removal of the earth at their base in the manner which has lately been done at the north-west angle of the enclosure, I cannot think there is any reason whatever to apprehend insecurity.

"It is unfortunate that the walls at the entrance into the castle present the least satisfactory appearance of the greater part of the circuit. It is probable that the magistrates may, at some period, be induced to restore the towers and other parts of the entrance, and give them a more suitable appearance; in the mean time, however, they are not in a state of insecurity.

"From the turrets at the south-east angle, as far as the keep, the south wall is, in some parts, in a defective state on both its surfaces, and should be carefully repaired, filling up all holes which are seen on its exterior face. The walls of the keep require also to be practically repaired, particularly at the base.

"The western walls appear to be in a fair condition as far as the ancient tower near the north-west angle, requiring little more than measures for preserving the upper part from the effects of weather.

"The walls of the tower, and other parts about it, are in a less substantial condition; but there is no defect indicating any material degree of insecurity.

"For the preservation of the north wall, it appears to me chiefly necessary to repair the upper part of it, where it is seen to be most decayed, and to do all that may contribute to prevent the injury occasioned by wet penetrating to the interior of the wall.

"I am of opinion that the perfect reparation of the whole of these walls will best be effected by the employment of six or seven careful masons, steady and experienced workmen, who should be employed, during the summer months of the year, inserting stones where they may be most wanted, setting them in cement, and inserting also cement in all the joints or decayed parts, their chief object being to prevent the rains from penetrating into any part of them; for, so long as that can be effected, there is every reason to hope that the walls will remain secure.

"These workmen should not begin their operations earlier in the year than the month of April, nor continue employed upon them after the month of August or early part of September, leaving the work from that time until the following spring.

"In this manner the work may, possibly, occupy them two or three years; and I hardly need say this time might be lessened by increasing the number of men employed, if it should be the desire of the magistrates, but I recommend that the time allowed for these repairs should not be much extended.

"I am, sir,
"Your very obedient servant,
"*Wm. Forbes, Esq., Clerk of the Peace.*" (Signed) "Robert Smirke.

Diet.—Breakfast, 1 pint of oatmeal gruel; dinner, four days, ½ lb. of boiled beef without bone; the other days, soup made from the liquor in which the meat was boiled, thickened with oatmeal; supper, 1 pint of oatmeal gruel; 1½ lb. of the best wheaten bread daily. The county allowance to debtors, the same. Convicted prisoners, who do not work, receive meat only two days a-week.

Clothing.—Convicted prisoners are dressed in a coarse brown and drab cloth suit; prisoners for trial in a brown suit, or a twilled drab cotton frock and trowsers.

Bedding.—Straw palliasse, 3 blankets. The cells for criminals have each 3 berths or sleeping-places, rising from the floor on a slightly inclined plane, and divided by strong planking; they are each 6 ft. 1 in. long, and 1 ft. 10 in. wide.

Debtors, upon paying 1*s.* 6*d.* weekly to the county, are provided with feather bed, bolster, blankets, and 2 sheets.

Cleanliness.—The prison and persons of the prisoners clean.

Health.—The surgeon sees every prisoner twice a-week, attends also when required, and inspects the prisoners before they are classed. The prisoners are generally very healthy. He says, "The infirmary consists but of one small room, overlooking the airing yard No. 1, and with which communication is constantly carried on, so much so that I have discharged prisoners much earlier than I could have wished. There are but two beds in the infirmary, and space for no more. Upon one occasion, during the prevalence of the influenza, I had 13 prisoners on the sick list in bed, and should have moved them if there had been room. There is no foul ward: the itch is treated by placing the infected prisoner in one of the refractory cells, which, of course, has to be purified after every patient. There is no airing yard for the female debtors, and he is obliged, for the preservation of health, to order them to walk in the castle-yard. The prisoners generally improve in health after committal. They often say they are sorry to leave the place where they have been so well treated." The surgeon keeps the following books: Journal containing dates of visits, names of patients and diseases; order book; directions for extra food to prisoners. Number of sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs one full service on the Sabbath, with prayers in the afternoon. Prayers every day in the week. The Sacrament is adminis-

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT. Reports on Separate Prisons. Lincoln Castle. County Gaol.

tered three times a-year. The average time spent by him daily in the prison he states to be from three-quarters of an hour to an hour. He says, "I see the prisoners occasionally: there are no fixed days for my visits. One of the turnkeys is appointed to instruct the male prisoners, and the matron does the same for the females: they seem to desire instruction. They are taught to write as well as read. The books are procured from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and I see them before distribution. The officers of the prison attend divine service regularly. I have found a wonderful difference in the conduct of men who have been sentenced to death, and then respited. In the latter case they seem to have forgotten many of the professions previously made." The turnkey, who is employed as an assistant in the instruction of the prisoners, states, "They are provided with Bibles, and slates and pencils. It generally happens that some of the prisoners can read: they instruct each other, and I superintend. They seem to like to be taught. The chaplain does not hear them read in the cells, and has not selected any portions of Scripture for them. The four prisoners now here, with sentence of death recorded, can read the Scriptures very well. The chaplain has not heard them read. He has not been into the day-rooms to them."

Upon visiting these prisoners, two, who stated they could scarcely read when they were committed, I found, upon examination, to do so fluently. Another was making progress in reading and writing; and the fourth, who had never been at any school, was able to read a little. The turnkey and chapel-clerk states, "In the winter evenings when they are locked in the day-rooms, previous to going to bed, I go into the rooms to hear them read, and teach them to write. Some of them delight in learning, to others it seems quite a bore. I generally find the older they are, the less inclined they are to learn, and the more difficult to teach. They are all more anxious to learn to write, and manifest it by wishing to begin, when they only read but very imperfectly. When they show a disposition for instruction or employment, they are allowed a candle, and are not locked up till seven in the winter. The chaplain is not present at the time the instruction is going on." The matron states, "Many of the females express a wish to be instructed. I have taught some of them to write. Those who wished to learn, always could do it. I have never had a refractory prisoner. The chaplain has heard the females once or twice during the last month. He is not in the habit of frequently visiting them." The magistrates have formed a library for the use of the prisoners; it is on the plan and under the same regulations as the Parochial Lending Libraries of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

The prisoners receive a catalogue, and make choice of any book they think proper. A book is kept in which is entered the title, date when lent, to whom lent, and date when returned. The transports under sentence generally read Robinson Crusoe; and the books most in request are Gay's Fables, The History of the Plague, Tales of a Grandfather, Life of Captain Cook, Duke of Marlborough and Wellington, Beauties of History, and Book of Trades. The religious books are very seldom asked for. The following is a list of books in the library:—

A Catalogue of the Books in the Library for the use of the Prisoners in Lincoln Castle.

1. Pious Christian's Daily Preparation.
2. Companion to the Altar.
3. Nelson's Festivals and Fasts of the Church of England.
4. Nelson's Practice of True Devotion.
5. Whole Duty of Man.
6. Law's Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life.
7. Trimmer's Prayers and Meditations.
8. Trimmer's Pious Country Parishioner Instructed.
9. Trimmer's Instructive Tales.
10. Trimmer's Help to the Unlearned, vol. i., vol. ii.
11. Horne on the Psalms.
12. Horne's Consideration on the Life and Death of Abel, Enoch, Noah, and John the Baptist.
13. Scougall's Life of God in the Soul of Man.
14. Sellon's Abridgment of the Scriptures.
15. Wilson's Maxims of Piety and Christianity.
16. Wilson's Private Meditations and Prayers.
17. Young's Manual of Devotion and Instruction for the Use of Prisoners.
18. Devotions of Bishop Andrews.
19. Green's Four Last Things—Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell.
20. Death Bed Scenes, vol. i.
21. ——————— vol. ii.
22. ——————— vol. iii.
23. ——————— vol. iv.
24. ——————— vol. v.
25. ——————— vol. vi.
26. Gilpin's Four Dialogues.
27. Davys's Village Conversation on the Liturgy.
28. On the Principal Offices of the Church—Baptism, Catechism, Confirmation, Matrimony, &c., &c.
29. Cheap Repository Tracts: vol. i. contains The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain, Two Shoemakers, Black Giles the Poacher, The Good Mother's Legacy, Happy Waterman, &c.

30. Cheap Repository Tracts: vol. ii., containing Noah's Flood, Joseph and his Brethren, &c., Daniel in the Lions' Den, Look at Home, Death of Christ, &c., &c.
31. Burnet's Life of Sir Matthew Hale.
32. Bonnell, Life and Exemplary Character of.
33. Burnet's Life of Rochester.
34. Lives of Hooker, Herbert, and Sanderson.
35. Lives of the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Nelson, and the Duke of Wellington.
36. Beauties of History; or, Pictures of Virtue and Vice, drawn from Real Life.
37. Book of Trades.
38. Robinson Crusoe.
39. History of the Plague and Fire of London.
40. Trimmer's Fabulous Histories.
41. Gay's Fables.
42. Lives of John Truman and Richard Atkins.
43. Tales of a Grandfather, vol. i., First series.
44. ——————— vol. ii. ,,
45. ——————— vol. iii. ,,
46. ——————— vol. i., Second series.
47. ——————— vol. ii. ,,
48. ——————— vol. iii. ,,
49. Entertaining Medley.
50. The Miscellany, or Evening Occupation.
51. Miscellaneous Reading Book.
52. Jones's Book of Nature.
53. Life of Captain Cook.
54. Bible Lesson Book.
55. Crossman's Introduction to the Knowledge of the Christian Religion.
56. Syneg's Answers to all Excuses and Pretences for not coming to the Holy Communion.

Offences and Punishments.—The ordinary offences are writing on and defacing the floors of the yards, communicating and throwing provisions from one airing yard to another, and attempts at escape; punished by confinement in the refractory cells and irons.

Weight of Irons.—6¾ lbs. for refractory prisoners; 7¾ lbs. for convicts.

Number of punishments, see Table.

Visits.—The prisoners are permitted to receive visits by an order from a magistrate. One day in the week is allowed for writing letters. The debtors see visitors from 10 to 12, and from 2 till 4. A large room is appropriated exclusively for debtors to see their friends, who are thereby most properly excluded from the interior, and no articles for them are admitted without being first examined by the officers.

Benefactions.—Robert Parkinson bequeathed, by will, dated 23d October 1770, 170*l.*, to be invested in public securities, the interest arising therefrom to be paid, on Easter Monday, to such prisoners for debt who shall be willing to accept of their proportion of the same. Two pounds are anonymously sent to the keeper at Christmas, and distributed by him among the debtors.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The county of Lincoln being in three divisions, with separate county-rates for each, the general business of the gaol is transacted at the sessions, held quarterly for the purpose. The provisions are contracted for by public advertisement. The bills are sent in to the keeper, who checks them by the quantities: they are afterwards examined and passed at the sessions. The clerk draws an order upon the treasurer for the amount. The keeper pays the bills, and transmits the receipts to the clerk.

EXPENDITURE FROM MICHAELMAS 1836, TO MICHAELMAS 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
153 2 3¾	4 4 0½	24 15 2	. .	91 7 7½	17 2 8	46 1 9½	1 15 6

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
5 5 0	. .	168 3 11	. .	803 14 5½	33 12 6	. .	1,349 4 11¾
						Salaries .	955 0 0
						Total . £	2,304 4 11¾

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Lincoln Castle. County Gaol.

Books. Work Book.—The name of every prisoner is entered in a weekly account kept of their employment, with the estimated value of a convicted prisoner, and the amount actually paid to the untried.

Daily Allowance Book.—Entries of daily issues of provisions and necessaries; the quantities added up daily and carried to the weekly account-book, where every prisoner's name and the amount of provisions consumed by him is inserted, showing the total weekly expenditure for food.

LINCOLN CASTLE.

Daily Account of Prisoners, and issue of Provisions and other Articles consumed.

Day of the Week.	Day of the Month.	NUMBER OF PRISONERS. Males before Trial.	Females before Trial.	Males Convicted.	Females Convicted.	Male Master Debtors.	Female Master Debtors.	Male Certificated Debtors.	Female Certificated Debtors.		Re-examination, &c.	Total Number.	PROVISIONS. Pounds of Bread.	Pounds of Beef.	Pounds of Oatmeal.	NECESSARIES, &c. Pounds and Ounces of Soap.	Pints of Oil.	Pecks of Coals.	Trusses of Straw.		Pints of Milk.	Commuted Money allowances and cost of extra Diet for Infants, sick and condemned Prisoners, &c.	REMARKS. With the Reasons for any over or under issue with Names.
																lbs. oz.						£. *s.* *d.*	
Saturday .																							
Sunday . .																							
Monday . .																							
Tuesday . .																							
Wednesday																							
Thursday .																							
Friday . .																							
Saturday. .																							
										Totals . . .													

ACCOUNT OF WORK DONE BY THE PRISONERS IN LINCOLN CASTLE.

During the Week ending Saturday

Names of Prisoners.	Description of Prisoners.	EMPLOYMENT. Caps.	Pairs of Muffatees.	Pairs of Gloves.	Pairs of List Shoes.	Pounds of Tow Spun.	Pairs of Stockings.			Days and Parts of Days employed in Cleaning, Teaching, Attending Sick Prisoners, Sewing, &c.	WAGES. Estimated value of work, if at Labour.	Wages Earned, if at Wages.	Remarks, why more or less executed, reasons of valuation when necessary.
											£. *s.* *d.*	£. *s.* *d.*	
	Totals . .									£			Totals.

Store Book.—Entries of issues of clothing and necessaries.

Keeper's Journal.—All the occurrences within the prison inserted.

Punishment Book.

Magistrates' Order Book.

Criminal Register.—Arranged under the heads of, Number—when committed—name—age stature—complexion—where born—single or married—number of children—if maimed or marked—profession or trade—by whom committed—crime—when tried—by whom—original sentence—present sentence—when carried into execution—remarks.

Register of births and burials. Debtors' register; and Lodging account-book.

Debtors.—The management of the debtors, who are described as generally well-behaved, appears superior in this gaol to most other prisons. The establishment of a visiting-room, and the preventing strangers from entering into the interior of the prison, appears a very excellent regulation. The letting of bedding to the debtors on the part of the county is a

great improvement over the usual practice of allowing the keeper to do so. The sum thus accruing to the county is about 30*l.* per annum.

Discipline.—The prisoners in this gaol are ordinarily those for trial, and under sentence of death and transportation. They are together in the day-rooms and airing yards during the day. From a species of observatory or tower on the top of the prison one of the turnkeys overlooks the yards, but in the day-rooms the prisoners are quite out of view. The turnkeys, as far as their various duties will admit, occupy themselves in instructing the prisoners, but I think much more might be done in the shape of moral and religious instruction than at present. I consider that the chaplain's labours might be very beneficially increased by more direct and frequent individual intercourse with the prisoners, superintending the school, selecting appropriate portions of Scripture for reading, and examining the progress of those under tuition. The appointment of a schoolmaster to be constantly among them I consider to be very desirable. The keeper says, "I am quite sure that a schoolmaster would have a very beneficial effect; the turnkeys are so occupied with other duties as to be unable to give themselves up to it entirely." The payment to the prisoners in money for employment while in the prison I think highly objectionable, and, particularly so, the permission given them to purchase tobacco. Among other practical lessons taught in a prison, should be that of convincing men addicted to this expensive and idle habit that they can do without it. The prohibition of the luxury of tobacco to all classes of prisoners, debtors or criminals, should, I think, be rigidly insisted upon. I consider the practice of serving out two days' allowance of bread at a time a very bad one: it tends to irregularity in meals, and to the bartering of provisions. Prisoners should invariably take their meals under the superintendence of the officers, and with the most scrupulous regularity. The inconvenient locality of the infirmary is further confirmed by one of the turnkeys, who says, "I have detected the prisoners talking and throwing bread and worsted from the infirmary to the airing yards below." The keeper states that "he has frequently asked the more respectable prisoners whether they would prefer being apart from the others, and they have always replied in the negative." There is a prisoner now confined here of the better class, a native of the North of Ireland, who can read, write, and is otherwise well informed. He found even the reception cell so irksome as to complain of it, and requested to be placed with the other prisoners. One of the turnkeys likewise says, "They always wish for company: we always keep them apart till it is ascertained whether they are infected with any disease: they always wish the time over." The visiting magistrates go through the prison and see every prisoner once a-month.

Keeper.—Age 61; appointed 1830; salary 350*l.*; garden, coals, and candles.

Matron.—Age 51; appointed 1829; salary 40*l.*; coals and candles; resides in the prison.

Turnkey.—Age 33; appointed 1827; salary 70*l.*; coals and candles; resides in prison; read and write.

Turnkey.—Age 33; labourer; appointed 1836; salary 50*l.*; coals and candles; resides in prison; read and write.

Turnkey and Chapel Clerk.—Age 31; butcher by trade; appointed 1835; salary 40*l.*; coals and candles; resides in prison; read and write.

Porter.—Salary 60*l.*; coals and oil; resides in prison lodge.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1800; salary 200*l.*; vicar of St. Martin's in Lincoln; two services on Sundays; no curate; resides near to the prison.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1810; salary 50*l.*; 25*l.* for attendance, 25*l.* for medicine.

The following resolution was come to at the General Gaol Sessions, on the 5th of October 1837:—

"A memorandum of the Visiting Justices relative to remarks made by Captain Williams, the inspector; and the report of the Surveyor thereon being read,

"Resolved—That the Court is very desirous to carry the suggestions of the Inspector of Prisons into effect as far as the safety of the prison and the details of management will admit.

"Resolved—That the matter be adjourned for the present, as no pressing practical inconvenience is felt, and as it appears from Lord John Russell's communication that some systematic general change is contemplated.

"By the Court,

"J. FORBES, Clerk of Gaol Sessions."

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in LINCOLN CASTLE, COUNTY GAOL, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors,								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.			
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.															
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
77	3	..	..	6	..	72	10	2	..	13	1	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	15	1	23	3	114	9	170	14	169	13	1	1

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within or Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
26	1	1	..	9	..	3	..	6	..	36	1	16	3	48	8	..	..	..	..	..	152	32	..	..	12	7	68	..	10	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.							Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																					Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.								Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Tread-wheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Tread-wheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
							Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all Cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below Ground.							Male.	Fem.			
To this Prison	..	..	..	..																								
Other Prisons.	..	..	..	..																								
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	3	105	9	..	1	..	11	11	..	..	..	4	2	..	2	9	4*d*.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION FOR THE DIVISION OF LINDSEY-AT-KIRTON.

This prison and sessions-house are connected or rather incorporated with each other. The original intention was, no doubt, to make a complete separation of the sexes, by placing the females on the south, and the males on the north side of the building, the courts and offices intervening between the two. If the ordinary number of prisoners of the sexes had been equal, this arrangement would have answered, but the contrary being the case, a portion of the males of necessity occupy the female side of the prison. The ground floor consists of a number of rooms, with airing yards attached to them; the latter wholly beyond inspection, except from the windows of the story above. The sleeping cells, with the exception of the vagrants and the infirmaries, are in the first floor. They are all arched, and have iron gratings at the windows and a close shutter. The refractory cell is deficient in proper ventilation. The windows of the room occupied by the clerk of the peace look directly into the receiving yard, and, being unprotected by bars, an escape would not be very difficult to an enterprising prisoner. The rooms in which the females sleep, look directly into the airing yards occupied by male prisoners. The court where the sessions are held is made use of as a chapel. It appears insecure, and the males and females are not so completely deprived of the means of communication as they ought to be. There is a deficiency in the supply of water for the prison in dry weather, and it has to be brought from some distance. The privies are also offensive in summer time. The accommodation for the keeper consists of cellarage in the basement. Ground floor,—magistrates' room, office, parlour, and kitchen. First floor,—five chambers. The sleeping cells vary in their dimensions, but, taken on an average, are 8 ft. 6 in. by 8 ft. and 9 ft. 8 in. high.

DIET.

	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday . . .	One pint of barley gruel .	Eight ounces of meat without bone, and half a pound of potatoes and salt.	One pint of oatmeal gruel.
Monday. . .	Ditto	One pint of broth boiled from the meat of Sunday, one pound of potatoes and salt.	Ditto.
Tuesday. . .	Ditto	Six ounces of meat without bone, one pint of broth, and half a pound of potatoes to those at the tread-wheels. All prisoners not at the tread-wheels one pound of potatoes and salt.	Ditto.
Wednesday . .	Ditto	All prisoners one pint of broth and one pound of potatoes with salt.	Ditto.
Thursday . .	Ditto	All prisoners six ounces of meat without bone, and half a pound of potatoes with salt. Prisoners at the tread-wheel one pint of broth.	Ditto.
Friday . . .	Ditto	One pint of broth and half a pound of potatoes with salt.	Ditto.
Saturday . .	Ditto	One pint of broth from beast head, and half a pound of potatoes with salt.	Ditto.

Seven pounds of wheaten bread per week to each prisoner, in two loaves of three and four pounds each.

Prisoners before trial or debtors, if providing themselves with food, are permitted to purchase daily 1½ lb. of meat, 1 lb. of vegetables, 1 pint of table beer, or 1 quart of milk.

Bedding.—Wooden bedsteads, palliasse, one double blanket, and rug.

Clothing. — Felons, particoloured suit of frieze with clogs; misdemeanants, brown; vagrants, grey.

Cleanliness.—The prison clean.

Health.—The attendance of the surgeon is daily, or nearly so. He sees all the prisoners before they are classed. Is present at corporal punishments. Itch, gonorrhœa, syphilis are the most common complaints. The surgeon states, "That the influenza was very prevalent in the prison during the last year, and was felt very severely; many who suffered from it are still experiencing its ill effects, manifested by attacks upon the chest, and an eruption on the skin similar to the itch, and yielding to similar treatment. There has been one case of typhus during the year. Bilious fevers have also prevailed in the prison. There is a low fever which is common among the prisoners, and which I can always tell the approach of by the tongue. I have a suspicion it is occasioned by prisoners debarring themselves provisions for a time, and selling them to each other. ———, a debtor, refused food when he came in on a Saturday, and remained without it until Tuesday, when the fever commenced with exactly the same symptoms as the other prisoners. ———, placed in solitary confinement for ill conduct, also refused to eat, and in consequence was attacked by the same fever, and was very seriously ill. The case of typhus occurred in a prisoner who had been sentenced to 12 months imprisonment, and during the last weeks of his confinement one of the prisoners nursed him. When fever takes place, I always fumigate, using saltpetre and salt in equal parts; a table spoonful of each, and a couple of tea spoonsful of oil of vitriol. I have noticed the most beneficial effects from it in cases of typhus and cholera. The general state of health within the prison has improved of late years. The prisoners who remain from 8 to 12 months alter much, and occasionally require additional diet; there were two lately who would have sunk but for it. There have been no deaths during the year. The prison is seldom without some individual requiring medical attendance. The infirmaries are not so well ventilated as might be wished, particularly the one over the vagrants' yard. I have thought it right to recommend the suspension of the sentence of

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solitary confinement of ———; in consequence of her debility she will not be able to undergo it." The Surgeon's Journal contains entries of the names of sick prisoners, and orders for extra diet, &c. Number of sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs two full services, with two sermons, on Sundays, and catechizes the younger prisoners. Prayers are read daily, alternately morning and evening, accompanied with an explanation of the lessons for the day. The sacrament has been administered, but on very few occasions has the chaplain felt it proper to do so. No system of instruction is carried on; the chaplain encourages the prisoners to teach each other. The tracts are procured from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and all the books are inspected by the chaplain. The officers, with the exception of the matron, attend divine service. The chaplain states, "I visit the prisoners in their wards once a-day. I go into a day-room, sit down and converse with them; in the first instance, with regard to their conduct, thoughts, actions, and feelings; I then read a portion of the Scriptures to them, with such remarks and explanation as I think fit for them, and upon these occasions I address myself to individuals as I consider the circumstances of their case to require. When there are mothers and children, I endeavour to impress upon them the necessity of bringing their children up to attend divine worship. I see prisoners on their commitment and discharge. The number of boys is sometimes seven or eight, I then form them into a class for religious instruction. I have seen the prisoners in the refractory cells, which have had little or no effect. The women in this district are more ignorant than the men; they are principally sent from Gainsborough. I fear the discipline of the prison makes no very great impression, and if it does, only upon the misdemeanants: I think the appointment of a schoolmaster would be beneficial." The matron states, "She sets the females to teach one another, but there are very few who take any delight in it." The Chaplain's Journal is arranged under the following heads:—Date—Daily Service—Behaviour—Absentees—Visiting Wards—Remarks.

Visits.—No convicted prisoner is allowed to receive visits or letters during the first three months; all other prisoners, including debtors, on Tuesdays. It appears that a debtor on one occasion complained of not being able to see his friends on special business except on Tuesdays.

Offences and Punishments.—The principal offences are quarrelling and disorderly behaviour at the wheel, punished by confinement in the refractory cells. The punishment of whipping is inflicted by the keeper in the presence of the surgeon. The boys are punished with a rod. Number of punishments, see Table.

Scourge.—Handle 14 inches long, with 9 lashes of whipcord each 14 inches in length.

Irons.—6½ lbs.

Labour.—The tread-wheels are placed in three yards; the felons, misdemeanants, and vagrants. The prisoners not on the wheel are employed in breaking flax, stones, or any work the keeper can find for them. The women also break flax, and are employed in washing. The wheels on the day of inspection were out of order, the shaft of one appearing to be broken. There are no means of properly inspecting the prisoners while at this or any other labour in the prison. The untried prisoners receive one-half of their earnings.

SCALE OF TREAD-MILL LABOUR.

Months Employed.	Number of Working Hours per day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day, as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
January	5	30	8 inches.	Two revolutions, or 48 steps.	One-fourth.	9,600	600	7.200	Not recorded.	A fly-wheel.
February	5									
March	5									
April	7½	..	..	..	..	14,400	900	10.800		
May	7½									
June	7½									
July	7½									
August	7½									
September	7½									
October	5	..	..	..	..	9,600	600	7.200		
November	5									
December	5									

Accounts, Expenditure.—The keeper purchases the provisions for the use of the prison, and keeps an account of his disbursements, which, after examination by the Sessions, are paid quarterly. The bill for bread is kept separately, and sent in by the baker.

EXPENDITURE from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
241 10 5½	3 13 0	25 6 10½	4 1 0	42 0 7½	10 8 3½	5 0 0	. .

Expenditure—(*continued*).

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Session or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners, as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1 2 0	2 1 0	2 4 0	. .	18 18 3½	25 0 6½	. .	382 7 9½
						Salaries. .	384 12 0
							766 19 9½
						Earnings and Receipts	14 7 5
						Total. .	781 7 2½

The Books kept are *Work, Provision,* and *Stock Books, Register, Prisoners' Property and Description Book, Journal and Re-commitment Book.*

Debtors.—The debtors in this prison are sent from local courts of requests, and are subjected to precisely the same discipline as the criminals. They are searched and their money taken from them, and are classed with the misdemeanants.

General Discipline.—The keeper does not sleep in the prison, as he ought to do, but in a house a short distance from it. The matron, a very respectable person, is incapacitated by age from performing her duties, and the important one of locking and unlocking is performed by her servant; nor does she attend the chapel with the female prisoners. I recommend that the issue of bread should be daily; that the cupboards in the day-rooms be taken down, and that no unconsumed provisions be permitted to lie about; that the convicted prisoners, at least, should take their meals in some sort of order in the day-rooms, or each return to his cell for that purpose. I am satisfied that this regulation would check the bartering of provisions at present so frequent. Partitions for separate labour on the wheel are much required, and more effectual means for the enforcement of silence, and while the prisoners are engaged in that as well as other labour. The appointment of another officer, capable of instructing the prisoners as a schoolmaster, and assisting in the general duties when disengaged, would be some check upon the unrestrained association which prevails. I annex a table of re-committals, compiled by the keeper for the year 1837, with the number of previous committals of the same prisoners, distinguishing their offences.

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Prisoners' Names.	Assaults.	Breaches of the Peace.	Bastardy.	Coin, Base.	Cursing.	Debtors.	Deserters.	Felony.	Family, leaving.	False Pretences.	Fines, non-payment.	Game.	Misdemeanor.	Poor, Disorderly.	Pockets, Picking.	Vagrants.
R. K.	1											6	1			
J. J.	2											2				
J. S.												1				1
T. A.	1															1
E. J.	1							1					1			
W. G.								1				4				
R. G.	1	1														
J. M.								1								1
T. W.	5															
J. J.	1															1
J. S.																2
E. O.								1		1						
J. L.	2	2														
J. W.												3	1			
C. G.		1	2										1			
J. S.									2			1				
W. T.								1	1							
J. G.	2											1				
C. M.			1			3							2			
J. C.													1			1
R. C.								2								
J. B.						2										
F. G.						1			1							
T. F.	1											1				
M. S.																2
C. H.															1	1
A. N.																2
J. N.																2
G. C.									2							
R. A.											2					
D. R.	1										1					
M. R.		1							1							
M. S.																2
J. F.								1								1
J. S.																2

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I found in the course of my inspection that a dumb female has been confined here since 1818. It appears she was committed at the October sessions, held at Louth, in that year, on a charge of vagrancy, and from that period to the present has been regularly re-committed from sessions to sessions. The chaplain has endeavoured in vain to trace out her relatives. She was employed in cooking the prisoners' food until her health failed. She is between 50 and 60, and likely to live some years. She is allowed to go outside the prison. The surgeon states it as his opinion that her removal would be injurious to her. I had her brought before me and interrogated her. She expressed herself as feeling happy at being there, and appeared quite agitated when asked if she would like to leave the prison, to which, by signs, she gave the most decided negative. I find by the register that similar cases have occurred in this prison, although not of late years.

—— ——, dumb man, was committed 13th of January 1804, and died in the prison, 8th of February 1828.

—— ——, a young dumb man, committed 9th of April 1818, died, in prison, August 1823.

—— ——, deaf man, who could only speak Welch, committed in 1818, discharged 1824.

Keeper.—Appointed 1821; salary, 400*l.*; two acres and half of garden ground and paddock.

Matron.—Age 77; appointed 1810; salary, 60*l.*; coals.

Turnkey.—Age 21; appointed 1837; salary, 54*l.* 12*s.*; resides in prison; son of the keeper.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1798; salary, 40*l.* for medicines and attendance.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1825; salary, 150*l.*; curate of Harspwell, five miles distant from Kirton, with one full service on the Sabbath; resides close to the prison.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the HOUSE of CORRECTION at KIRTON, from October 1830 to October 1831, with the Number of Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Law.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
13	2	..	..	..	..	25	4	3	..	38	5	..	..	11	..	5	..	37	14	38	8	1	..	131	25	162	33	144	27	18	6

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
..	..	14	2	16	2	5	1	25*	3	30	4	26	6	32	12	1	2	3	..	112	15	68	..	..	70	32	70	13	23	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separations, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																						Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.								Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.										
To this Prison / Other Prisons	.. / ..	.. / ..	.. / ..	.. / ..	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.										Male.	Female.			
1	18	6	5	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	25	1 (The Infirmary when required.)	74	10	3	1	..	9	9	2	3	1	A wooden screen.	2	2	One tin slipper bath.	10	5*d.*

* Of the above, two for examination.

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HOUSE OF CORRECTION AT LOUTH FOR THE DIVISION OF LINDSEY.

This prison stands in an open area of considerable extent, at a short distance from the borough town of Louth. It is enclosed with a wall of brick, about 18 feet in height. The principal entrance to it is through an ornamental gateway of the Doric order, with the word "Prison" inscribed in large letters on the entablature. One of the two lodges is occupied by a turnkey, and the other, originally intended for the reception of prisoners on committal, has been very injudiciously converted into a laundry, and the female prisoners, while occupied there in washing, may see all who pass in and out of the prison. Near the tread-wheel is another gate, and there is a third outlet through the keeper's garden. In all prisons there should be but one place of ingress and egress, and that under the immediate inspection of the keeper; the safety of the prisoners is hazarded, and the maintenance of discipline rendered more difficult, when the case is otherwise, as here. In the south-west angle is an old dilapidated building, the former house of correction, containing 14 rooms of various sizes. It is now only used for the confinement of vagrants, and those sentenced to solitary confinement. The accommodation for the latter consists of two cells below ground, damp and without light. They have small airing-yards attached to them. I consider these cells as wholly unfit for such a purpose.

The new prison stands in the centre of the area; the plan originally contemplated was that of a central building with three wings of three stories, two only of which have been completed. The keeper's house contains cellarage in the basement, office, two parlours and kitchen on the ground floor, four chambers and chapel on the first floor. The chapel is partitioned into a fan-like shape, with six pens for the males, and four for the females, and the females sit on the right and left of the pulpit, under the superintendence of the matron. Eight paved airing-yards, with open ironwork at their ends, are placed round the building, leaving free the front of the keeper's house looking to the gate. Each yard is provided with a privy, and supplied with water. The plan of this prison is very defective and inconvenient; the day-rooms are placed at the extremity of each of the three floors, without any direct communication with the yards or the privies, and away from all inspection. The doors of the cells are iron, with large circular ventilators, ceilings, and floors flagged. The partitions to the prisoners' cells being only a brick and a half in thickness, they find no difficulty in talking to each other.

Dimensions.

Sleeping cells.—8 ft. by 6 ft. 2 in., 8 ft. high.
Four bedded rooms.—13 ft. 6 in. by 13 ft., 8 ft. high.
Solitary cell, No. 1.—9 ft. by 6 ft., 7 ft. 10 in. high.
Do. No. 2.—7 ft. by 6 ft., 7 ft. 10 in. high.
Yard to No. 1.—6 ft. by 5 ft. 10 in.
Do. No. 2.—8 ft. by 4 ft. 8 in.

DIETARY.

Days.	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	One pint of boiled milk in winter, and cold in summer.	Six ounces of meat without bone, one pound of potatoes, with salt.	One pint of boiled milk in winter, and cold in summer; or oatmeal gruel.
Monday	Ditto	One pint of broth boiled from the meat of Sunday, one pound of potatoes, and salt.	Ditto.
Tuesday	Ditto	Four ounces of meat without bone, one pound of potatoes, and salt.	Ditto.
Wednesday	Ditto	One pint of broth boiled from the meat of Tuesday, one pound of potatoes, and salt.	Ditto.
Thursday	Ditto	Six ounces of meat without bone, one pint of broth, one pound of potatoes, and salt.	Ditto.
Friday	Ditto	One pint of broth from the meat of Thursday, one pound of potatoes, and salt.	Ditto.
Saturday	Ditto	One pint of oatmeal gruel, one pound of potatoes, and salt.	Ditto.

Eight pounds of wheaten bread per week to each prisoner at hard labour, in two loaves of four pounds each; and six pounds each to all other prisoners, in two loaves of three pounds each; to be baked 12 hours before delivered.

The quality of the bread is good thirds, it is made out of the prison, and served to the prisoners twice a-week, instead of being so daily. The potatoes are also given to the prisoners to cook for themselves. The keeper is allowed 5*d*. a-head, daily, for providing the diet. The diet was according to the following scale previous to 1833:—

Sundays and Thursdays, 1 pint of oatmeal gruel for breakfast; 1 pint for supper; and 4 oz. of meat for dinner.

Mondays and Fridays, gruel as above; 1 pint of broth for dinner from the liquor in which the meat was boiled the preceding day.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, a pint of gruel for each meal; 1 lb. of bread daily in addition to the above.

The surgeon states, "The working classes in this immediate neighbourhood live well, perhaps better than in most parts of England. Upon the low scale of diet the men lost flesh and were unable to do their work at the wheel. Extreme debility ensued. I had the prisoners weighed, and they lost flesh so rapidly, that I was compelled to make a represen-

tation to the magistrates, and the diet now in use was substituted." The debility noticed as resulting from the labour has entirely disappeared, and the prisoners' health has improved generally since that period.

Clothing.—Convicted, fustian frocks and trowsers of drab and blue. Misdemeanants, suit of plain fustian.

Females.—No clothing.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, straw mat made in the prison, two blankets in summer, three in winter, and rug.

Fuel.—Three pecks of coals in summer, and six in winter, to each day-room, weekly.

Cleanliness.—A want of cleanliness and neatness observable in the day-rooms. The prisoners not cleansed upon their first coming in.

Health.—The surgeon attends three times a-week, and oftener when required by illness. He states, "that he does not go through the prison at these times. He does not examine the prisoners previous to their being classed; there are no reception cells, and they go at once to their ward. There is no infirmary, the sick are placed in the day-rooms, or wherever it is found most convenient. No doubt there is danger of prisoners communicating the itch. Has a recollection of one case of itch being so communicated. The prisoners are not inspected by him before going on the wheel. Recollects a case of a man who was ruptured, and who had been on the wheel. Has no doubt it was a congenital rupture. He declared to me that I was the first person who knew of it. He came to complain to me of pain, and was relieved from labour; the prisoner said his first recollection of it was when six years of age. Another prisoner had been in some time, and complained of pain in consequence of working on the wheel; he did not tell me till I asked him whether he had a broken body. He then confessed it, and was relieved." There is no apparatus for stoving the prisoners' dresses; no warm bath, and the men in the itch, instead of this most necessary application, after being rubbed, are only supplied with warm water in buckets. The most prevalent diseases are diarrhœa, itch, ulcerated legs, syphilis, and gonorrhœa; diarrhœa is frequent, and occasionally terminates in dysentery, lasting for a fortnight or three weeks. The surgeon says, "I am at a loss what to attribute it to; I ascribed it at one time to the lowness of the diet, but that was increased, and the cases still continue. There was a death this year from diarrhœa." The following is an extract from the journal of the case referred to:—"March 17, J. S. Very unwell; bilious fever. March 19, J. S. Bilious vomitings and diarrhœa. In great danger. March 21, J. S. No better. In imminent danger. Same day, noon, J. S. The vomitings and diarrhœa had continued with great violence, and he expired about noon." He saw the patient between the above intervals inserted in his journal, it being his general practice to make entries therein only every other day. "The tendency to diarrhœa is not perceptible till after they have been in for some time. There is no marked difference as to its prevalence in particular times or seasons. The females are equally subject to it with the males. Typhus broke out in the prison about six years ago; it was communicated by a vagrant, and in spite of every care spread through the prison; a turnkey died of it. The influenza was very prevalent; it visited us twice. When a case of itch occurs among the felons or misdemeanants they are immediately separated, but the vagrants are not; they are a mass of filth and dirt, and are all together. He attends all corporal punishments. They are not severe as contrasted with their infliction in the army. Does not suffer it to go the length of breaking the skin. Keeps a journal and case-book." The journal contains patients' names and their progress, dates of surgeon's visits, attendances at corporal punishments, and orders for extra diet, the case-book particulars of the cases and medical treatment of each prisoner.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The religious instruction afforded to the prisoners is prayers on Sunday morning and evening, with one sermon, and an explanation of parts of the Church of England Catechism. Prayers on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the chapel. The sacrament is administered four times a-year, but only after due examination. The prisoners are furnished with books, which are delivered out by the chaplain on Sunday afternoons. The books are procured from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. The chaplain states, "That, when he hears of cases of sickness, and the prisoners desire to see him, he attends. He does not visit those in solitary confinement. All the officers regularly attend Divine service with the exception of the matron, who is very aged, deaf, and almost blind. She is present frequently. The officers generally communicate. There is no systematic instruction of the prisoners. He thinks it most desirable there should be, particularly for those not compelled to labour, whose time passes one knows not how, and renders all that is said in the prison of little avail." On this subject the keeper says, "Many, many times I have heard the prisoners say they should like to learn to read and write. They instruct themselves as well as they can, and it is quite wonderful to see in this way the improvement they make." On Sundays the chaplain examines those who have been committed since the last Sabbath. He does not think the discipline of the prison has anything of a deterring or reforming effect upon the prisoners. He receives no report from the keeper of those in solitary confinement, or absent from chapel; supposes that all the prisoners attend. The only reports made to him are of those prisoners committed the preceding week, whom he questions. The prisoners are generally in the grossest state of ignorance, knowing nothing of baptismal vows, confirmation, or the Lord's supper. He keeps a private journal under the following heads:—Date—name—offence—read or write imperfectly—read and write well—superior—religious persuasion—what taught—what place of worship—where—remarks. The follow-

ing passages are extracted from under the head of remarks:—"Visited for the last time this day ——, committed on a coroner's inquest for infanticide; a dull person, scarcely an answer to be elicited from her at any time as to the state of her mind or feelings; very difficult to form any opinion of her mind in any respect, whether apathy or insensibility of guilt upon her, or whether bodily weakness and apprehension of her trial at Lincoln might drive away all thoughts of religion." Continuation of remarks on the same prisoner after trial:—"She has not sent for me since her conviction, being sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment for concealing the birth. I understand she has now resumed her spirits, nor have I seen her since." The journal contains entries of the duties performed by the chaplain, and is laid before the sessions. (Number of sick, see Table.) Extract from the inspector's notes, 3d September:—"Attended Divine Service in the evening. The chaplain, after reading prayers, delivered out tracts to the prisoners, explaining their purport, and recommending them to their perusal. He then discoursed upon the keeping of the eighth and ninth commandments, and, with much effect, adverted to the Denver murder in Norfolk."

The following valuable Table is compiled from the chaplain's private journal:—

Louth House of Correction.

Division.	Subdivision.		1836. January Sessions to April. Male.	Fem.	April Sessions to Mid-summer. Male.	Fem.	Mid-summer Sessions to Michael-mas. Male.	Fem.	Michael-mas Sessions to January. Male.	Fem.	Total Number of Prisoners.	1837. January Sessions to April. Male.	Fem.	April Sessions to Mid-summer. Male.	Fem.	Mid-summer Sessions to Michael-mas. Male.	Fem.	Michael-mas Sessions to January. Male.	Fem.	Total Number of Prisoners.
		Number of prisoners examined, soon after committal, in Christian knowledge	43	6	30	6	48	7	44	8	192	57	5	40	17	49	9	55	8	240
No. 1. Religious Instruction. What?	1	Partially instructed in Church of England catechism or in some other elementary summary of Christian knowledge	23	3	20	4	31	3	32	7	192	33	4	21	9	26*	6	35	6	240
	2	Uninstructed and neglected, of whom were	20	3	10	2	17	4	12	1		24	1	19	8	21	3	20	2	
Appendix to No. 1.	1	Grossly ignorant of religion	14	4	10	3	11	..	12	4	..	9	1	5	1	13	2	19	3	
No. 2. What sect, or otherwise	1	Professing to be members of the Church of England	30	3	22	5	29	4	28	4	192	22	2	10	6	17	4	24	6	240
	2	Professing to be dissenters, of various denominations	8	3	5	1	4	1	2	2		8	1	4	4	14	1	9	..	
	3	Professing no particular sect	5	..	3	..	15	2	14	2		27	2	26	7	16	4	22	2	
No. 3. Place of worship. What and when?	1	Frequenting church, or some other place of worship, usually on the Sunday	15	3	16	3	21	5	19	3	192	17	3	15	5	22	2	22	3	240
	2	Occasionally going to a place of worship on the Sunday	23	3	9	3	23	2	21	5		37	2	13	11	9	2	27	1	
	3	Habitually, or nearly so, absent from all places of public religious worship	5	..	5	..	3	1	3	1		3	..	12	1	16	5	6	4	
Appendix to No. 3.	..	Confirmed	..	..	4	2	22	2	16	1	..	10	1	14	7	16	5	15	4	
Ditto	..	Receive sacrament, occasionally, in the places of their respective religious communions	1	..	4	..	5	..	5	..	..	2	..	6	1	3	2	1	..	
No. 4. General education	1	Read and write well	..	..	6	..	3	..	3	..	192	8	..	7	1	13	2	19	3	240
	2	Read and write imperfectly	20	2	5	1	22	1	21	4		9	..	11	10	14	4	20	3	
	3	Neither read nor write, or only read in the most superficial manner	23	4	19	5	23	6	20	4		40	5	22	6	20	3	16	2	
No. 5.	1	Received sacrament in Louth House of Correction	7	1	6	..	7	4	12	1	..	6	..	3	1	3	1	..	..	
No. 6.	1	Manifesting intelligence in answering, though, for the most part, ignorant of religious knowledge	1	..	2	1	3	..	5	..	..	3	..	4	..	13	..	10	1	..
	2	Manifesting extreme carelessness or sullenness, and repugnance to answer questions	4	..	3	..	7	..	2	..		10	..	2	..	4	1	12	3	

* Two men unexamined.

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DIVISION.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
House of Correction at Louth for the Division of Lindsey.

Classification.—According to the Gaol Act.

Labour.—The tread-wheel adjoins the old prison, and is at a distance of near 70 yards from the new buildings. The prisoners have to pass to and fro six times during the day. The inconvenience and insecurity of this method are but too apparent. The wheels are placed in two sheds, and most inconveniently so for inspection. They are without partitions. The watchman has no cover to protect him from the weather; and the letters and figures carved by the prisoners on the boards show very plainly that the labour is little more than nominal. The prisoners receive 1*d.* a-day for their labour. The miller says, "The men talk on the wheel, nor can they be prevented, situated as they are; they might if there were partitions. There are no ventilators; if there were they would have to be towards the street. The mill is unsafe; the roof of the upper story is only lath and plaster; and there is a water-spout on the back, which might make escape easy." The following order has been made by the magistrates for the regulation of the tread-wheel work:—"That the prisoners in the House of Correction at Louth, who are committed to hard labour, do work on the tread-wheel 20 minutes and rest 10 minutes; and that no prisoner be allowed to speak during the time of labour; and all prisoners swearing or quarrelling with each other be punished as hereinafter: viz., Every prisoner offending against these orders be confined in a separate cell, for the first offence, 6 hours; for the second offence 12 hours, and deprived of 2 meals; and for every other offence any time not exceeding 3 days and nights, unless by order in writing of 1 or more visiting magistrates; and that, during such separate confinement, each prisoner be allowed half a pound of bread per day and water, and that they be allowed no bed at night but board bedsteads."

The grain for the mill is supplied by the keeper, who retails it at the gate through the under turnkey. The flour is taken to the shop by the miller, and any quantity, however small, may be purchased; it is sold 2*d.* a stone under the market price. The prison mill has the reputation of grinding better than most others. The miller says, "They can never grind, with their numbers, sufficient to meet the demand. The call for it is generally from the humbler classes. The keeper pays the county 4*s.* a-quarter for grinding, while it is only 2*s.* 6*d.* in the country. It is impossible for me to say how he can afford it. He started at that price, and has not altered. I do not think he makes much profit." The keeper states, "That of any profit that may accrue to him through purchasing grain when at a low price, 10*l.* is the greatest profit he ever recollects." The men not for labour are employed in knitting, and the females in washing, scouring, spinning, and working for a Dorcas society.

SCALE OF TREAD-WHEEL LABOUR.

Months Employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day, as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheel per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with Precision.	Application of its Power.
			Inches.					Hours. Min.		
January	6½	24	8	48 steps,	Two-thirds at	8,320	520	4 20	No ergometer recording the revolutions of the wheel.	Grinding corn.
February	8	..	..	being	labour and	10,240	640	5 20		
March	9	..	..	two revo-	one-third at	11,520	720	6 0		
April	10	..	..	lutions.	rest, or 20	12,800	800	6 40		
May	10	..	..	..	minutes on	12,800	800	6 40		
June	10	..	..	..	and 10	12,800	800	6 40		
July	10	..	..	..	minutes at	12,800	800	6 40		
August	10	..	..	..	rest.	12,800	800	6 40		
September	10	..	..	..	..	12,800	800	6 40		
October	9	..	..	..	..	11,520	720	6 0		
November	8	..	..	..	..	10,240	640	5 20		
December	6½	..	..	..	..	8,320	520	4 20		

Offences and Punishments.—The ordinary offences are shouting and other disorderly conduct, punished by stoppage of meals and confinement in the refractory cells. Whipping is inflicted by the keeper. Scourge, common whip-handle, 18 inches long, 9 lashes of thick whip-cord, with 2 knots in each. Weight of irons 6 lbs. The keeper considers that the fear of corporal punishment acts as a useful check upon the prisoners. Number of punishments, see Table.

Visits and Letters.—There is no convenient place appropriated for the prisoners to see their friends. They either do so at the tread-wheel or in the yards. The principal turnkey says, "I have known the other prisoners to speak to the visitors at these times." When they require to write letters, pen, ink, and a sheet of paper is given them, and it is sent through the keeper. The debtors are subject to the same regulations.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—5*d.* a-day for each prisoner is allowed the keeper for providing the diet according to the regulated scale. He makes out his account quarterly, which is first examined by the visiting magistrates, then laid before the Sessions, and paid by the treasurer. The tradesmen's bills for clothing, stationery, repairs, &c., are audited and paid half-yearly.

EXPENDITURE from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
389 4 4	16 6 0	32 7 0	36 17 0	74 0 0	6 11 8	. .	. .

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Session or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners, as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
9 9 0	26 4 0	1 8 0	. .	26 14 6	17 4 0	. .	636 5 6
						Salaries. .	484 0 0
							1120 5 6
					Deduct	Earnings . .	16 16 3
						Total. £	1103 9 3

Books.—Day-book.—Each prisoner's name is inserted, with the period of his detention in the prison, and the amount due for his diet.

Labour-book.—Each prisoner receives 1*d.* for every day he is at labour; the account is kept weekly in a book arranged under the following heads:—Date—name—description—

From Sessions to Sessions.

| | | | | | | |

a number of bundles and quantity of clothes about the prison, especially belonging to the misdemeanants. It is impossible to keep up any discipline as we are situated. They talk together in the cells at night. They lie down in the yards and play together at games. I have heard some say they wished they had something to do. They barter their food with each other." The keeper states "That he does not go round the prison daily, but that either himself or the chief turnkey does invariably."

The discipline of this prison is of a very inferior order. Under the head of cleanliness no provision is made for cleaning the prisoners, or their clothing, on their coming in; there is not even a bath in the prison, and such vagrants as are infected with the itch are actually suffered to remain with the others of their class. The prisoners should be inspected by the surgeon previously to being classed. The chaplain does not visit the prisoners in their day-rooms, nor in solitary confinement; the latter is not to be wondered at, the cells being under ground, dark and damp, and unfit for the purpose. I understand that prisoners have been confined there for 14 days, without exercise, and without attending Divine service. A schoolmaster is much required, and also the introduction, if possible, of some light work, for the employment of the untried and those not sentenced to hard labour. I recommend most strongly the abolition of the penny a-day for work done on the tread-wheels; their removal to the body of the prison, and being partitioned for separate labour, is very desirable. I also recommend that no cooking should be permitted in the day-rooms; that the bread and all other provisions be served out daily, and that the allowance of coals in the summer months be taken away. I also recommend that the keeper should not farm the diet, and that the under turnkey should not be permitted to be absent two hours daily for the purpose of milking his cows kept for supplying the prisoners. Among other improprieties is the permitting prisoners to receive money from visitors, and the turnkeys purchasing articles for them out of the prison. The rules bear the date of 1809, and are considered by the keeper as obsolete, his instructions are to enforce the Act of Parliament; a fresh set of regulations is much required. The matron, through age and infirmity, is wholly unfitted for her office. Her duties are in some degree performed by a female relation, but without the authority of the magistrates. The females occasionally sleep three in a cell, and the prison, at times, is inconveniently crowded; their sleeping cells are very close to those of the males. They are described by the matron as very refractory, especially the prostitutes from Louth. The difficulties of inspection, from the faulty construction of this prison, are considerable, but with increased zeal and activity in the officers, and the changes herein recommended, a very great improvement in its present state of discipline may reasonably be expected.

Debtors are sent here from courts of requests established in several parts of the division of Lindsey by the 47 Geo. III., which enacts, "They may be imprisoned in any common gaol or prison in the said county of Lincoln." They are subject to the same restraints as the criminal prisoners, and are not permitted to have either beer or tobacco.

Officers.—Keeper.—Age 71; appointed 1808; salary, 180; house and garden, coals, candles, and washing.

Matron.—Age 74; wife of the keeper; appointed 1827; salary, 20*l.*

Turnkey.—Age 50; appointed 1831; carpenter and joiner by trade; salary, 52*l.*; resides in the lodge; married; read and write.

Turnkey.—Age 45; appointed 1824; labourer; salary, 12*s.* a-week; resides in the prison; married; cannot read or write.

Miller.—Age 32; appointed 1832; miller by trade; salary, 52*l.*; boards with the keeper. He states that he made an arrangement with the keeper, when hired, to receive 12*s.* a-week, and board and lodging in his house; single; read and write.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1831; salary, 100*l.*; his appointment is on the condition that he undertake no more than one single duty in addition to that of the prison.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1828; salary, 40*l.* for medicines and attendance, and one guinea for every midwifery case.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.			
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.															
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
17	..	..	..	..	2	49	8	33	8	99	30	..	..	12	..	5	..	78	8	41	9	9	1	250	48	259	49	241	45	18	4

State of Instruction of Prisoners . . { Can neither Read nor Write. Males, 84; Females, 12. | Can Read only. Males, 58; Females, 27. | Can Read and Write imperfectly. Males, 48; Females, 6. | Can Read and Write well. Males, 55; Female, 1. | Total, Males, 245; Females, 46.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour or Employment.				Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being Hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.			
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.																
2	..	18	3	20	2	15	2	23	3	40	5	$39\frac{115}{365}$	$10\frac{181}{365}$	51	14	2	..	4	..	194	43	71	2	..	..	17	31	19	9	1	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.							Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																									Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.								Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
							Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.				Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.											
To this Prison	39	8	2	11																												
Other Prisons	10	..	..	..																												
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.										M.	F.				
	..	..	..	..	54	6	..	..	..	..	28	10	17	3	66 New 24 Old Prison.		2	..	..	10	10	..	2	..	10	..	..	..	10	5*d*.

II.

Northern and Eastern Division.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Spilsby. House of Correction.

House of Correction for the Division of Lindsey at Spilsby.

The prison with sessions-house adjoining is situate close to the market-town of Spilsby, and on the high road to Louth. The exterior front displays a fine Doric portico leading to the sessions-house, with a screen of white brick, on each side, pierced with two arched gateways, the entrances to the prison, forming a façade much more imposing in appearance than the buildings to which they are accessaries. It is encircled by a boundary wall of brick with several loose courses at the top, and the area is about 220 ft. by 202. The public entry to the prison is on the left of the sessions-house, with turnkey's lodge adjoining. At the back of the sessions-house is a building of two stories, containing several apartments and two airing yards, with water-closets in each. It is partly appropriated as a bath-room, surgery and kitchen, for the magistrates at sessions. It was originally intended for an infirmary, and contains most ample accommodation. The prison consists of a central building, and three wings with pavilions at the ends. The keeper's dwelling contains cellarage in the basement; ground floor offices, 2 sitting rooms and kitchen; first floor, 4 chambers; second floor, chapel. The chapel is a square of 42 ft. 8 in., and 14 ft. in height. It is divided into 6 pens for male prisoners, the fronts to the pulpit, fitted with open iron rails. The females and debtors sit in pews on the right and left of the clergyman. The wings have each 3 stories, with 16 cells and 4 day rooms on each landing. The cells are 6 ft. 3 in. by 8 ft., and 8 ft. high; the day-rooms 13 ft. 8 in. by 13 ft.; partition between each cell 14 in. The doors of the cells are of iron; the window of each cell is closed with an iron shutter, except those appropriated to the debtors, which are glazed. There are 8 paved airing yards with water laid on, and enclosed by walls with open iron rails at the ends, and privies in each. The drainage is indifferent. This prison is built on a similar inconvenient plan to that of Louth; the staircases to the cells adjoin the keeper's dwelling, and the day-rooms are in the second and third floors, from which the men have to be brought down to the yards for all purposes. Pipes for the supply of water are laid on to all the stories of the building; but as the reservoir is only on a level with the second floor, it is rather difficult to understand how the fluid is ever to reach the third, at a height of several feet above. The prison is seldom or ever fully occupied, the infirmary is quite useless, and a quantity of ivy growing about it would, for the preservation of the building, be better away. The keeper applies several of the untenanted cells as bed-rooms, &c., for the use of his family. Twenty-five thousand pounds were borrowed in Exchequer bills to defray the expenses of constructing this prison and sessions-house, which will not be entirely repaid until 1847.

Diet.—Five pence a day is allowed the keeper, for supplying the following dietary: One pound of meat without bone per week to each prisoner, stewed down into soup, and each prisoner has one pint of the soup for dinner six days in the week; and one pint of oatmeal gruel one day for dinner, one pound of potatoes per day each with salt; breakfast and supper, one pint of milk or oatmeal gruel; eight pounds of wheaten bread per week to each prisoner that labours at the tread-mill, and six pounds of bread per week to all other prisoners; the whole of which is provided by the county. The bread is of a coarser quality than ordinary.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, mats, straw palliasse, 2 blankets and rug.

Clothing.—Convicted, fustian frocks and trowsers, drab and blue. Misdemeanants, suit of plain fustian. No clothing allowed to the females.

Fuel.—Coals allowed all the year round.

Cleanliness.—The prison clean. Soap and towels allowed.

Health.—The surgeon attends twice a week, and inspects the whole of the prisoners, independently of his attendance upon cases of sickness. The prisoners are not all seen by him, before they are classed. He is present at the infliction of corporal punishment. Eruptive disease is very common among the vagrants, diarrhœa is not unfrequent, occasionally degenerating into light dysentery. He states that he considers the diet has a tendency to produce this disease, being of too liquid a nature, and containing but a small quantity of meat. The quality of food used by the labouring class in Lincolnshire is much higher than the generality of English counties. The influenza prevailed to a very great degree in the winter. Until the year 1837 there has been only one death in the prison, in the present there have been four.

"P. T. died December 28th, 1836. He was a scrofulous subject, and the cause of his death was inflammation of the lungs, and disease of the mesenteric glands.

"J. B. died February 17th, 1837. The cause of his death was hæmoptysis and abscess of the lungs.

"A. S. died February 23rd, 1837. The cause of his death was hepatitis, combined with hydrothorax.

"J. S. died February 28th, 1837. The cause of his death was hepatitis, combined with ascites. The whole of these patients were suffering from organic disease long before they entered the prison. The epidemic called the influenza prevailing at the same time with the confinement hastened their end. The two last named prisoners were father and son; the confinement had a decided effect in hastening the progress of the disease in both. They did not complain. The boy's body was considerably swelled when he came in: he appeared to me in that state, that if there had been any interference by active measures, except to alleviate his sufferings, it would have accelerated his decease. He was sentenced to a month's imprisonment. The boy made no complaint. I was ill at the time, and another practitioner was attending for me."

The surgeon's journal is very imperfectly kept, and contains no entry of the deaths of the four prisoners above alluded to. There are other remarks which I consider were better omitted, particularly as they furnish evidence of a want of unanimity among the officers, always injurious to good government. The following are extracts:—

"August, 1837. Nine prisoners. The whole of these men complain that they are ill for want of sufficient food."

Upon referring to the surgeon for an explanation, and asking if they were really ill, he states that there was little or nothing the matter with them.

"That when my attendance is required at the prison, Mr. Saunders will send a proper messenger: that on Saturday morning last I was requested to go immediately to a man who was stated to be very ill; not being able to attend myself, Mr. Barker attended for me, and instead of finding him worse, he was better, as the book will prove; that at nine at night I was sent for to go to ————, who was stated to be dying. On my arrival very little was the matter with him, he only requiring a stomachic, which if the ale I had ordered had been given to him would have answered every purpose." Number of sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs two services, with one sermon on Sundays, and prayers on Wednesdays, and Friday mornings; visits the sick as occasion may require; supplies the prisoners with religious books and tracts, and changes them once a week. The books are supplied at the expense of the Division. Administers the Sacrament four times a year to such as present themselves; the average number of communicants between 5 and 6. No system of instruction carried on. It has occasionally happened that there has been a prisoner here who was capable of teaching, and he has been so employed. The chaplain "considers it would be better they should be so occupied, than as at present, idling in the day-rooms. Some express a desire to be instructed, perhaps the generality of them: they are generally very ignorant, but particularly so on religious subjects. Never had an instance of a prisoner asking to see a minister of his particular persuasion. A Roman Catholic committed as a vagrant during the last week refused a book on the grounds of its being a Protestant one: we had no other to give him.

The matron says, "The female prisoners are not instructed, but when any prisoners have been able, they have taught the others. Several children have learned to read by these means. The chaplain occasionally visits them; perhaps on an average once a month, and if sick, every day. They express a desire to be taught, and are chiefly of the agricultural class." All the officers attend Divine service. The keeper reports when prisoners are in solitary confinement, that the chaplain may visit them. No private character book is kept. The chaplain's engagement with the magistrates was that he should perform the same duties as the chaplain at the House of Correction at Louth. On his appointment there, he went over to ascertain what they were. The chaplain's journal contains entries of duties performed, as "Read the morning and evening services, and preached a sermon." The following is a catalogue of the books in circulation.

A Catalogue of Books in the House of Correction, Spilsby.

A Bible and Testament in each day-room.
Enfield's Speaker.
Clarke's Letters on Moral Geography.
Letters to the Young on Early Piety.
Kirk White's Remains.
Religious Tracts.
The Young Christian's Cyclopædia.
Bishop Wilson's Duties of Christianity.
Various vols. of Sermons by Clergymen of the Church of England.
Bishop of Chester's Christian Institutes.
Goldsmith's Abridgment of the History of England.
Mrs. Trimmer's School Books.
Jamieson's General History.
Essay on Early Rising.
The Infidel Reclaimed.
Abridgment of the Holy Scriptures.
Companion to the Altar.
Mrs. Trimmer's Tales.
Anson's Voyages.
Bishop Horne's Commentary on the Psalms.
Paley's Evidences of Christianity.
Letters from a Mother to her Daughter.
Spelling Book.
Potts's Discourses on Confirmation.
Bishop Wilson on the Practice of Christianity.
Wavell's Practical Lectures on the Old Testament.
New Manual of Devotions.
Nelson's Festivals.
Bishop Wilson's Sermons.
Lyttleton on the Apostleship of St. Paul.
Book of Utility.
Voyages to America.
Life of Nelson, by Clarke.
Persuasions to Early Piety.
Park's Travels in Africa.
Birket's Guide to Christian Families.
Charge to Missionaries.

II. Northern and Eastern District.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Spilsby. House of Correction.

Pious Country Parishioner.
Macloit's Natural History.
Æsop's Fables.
A sufficient number of Prayer-books for the use of the prisoners in the chapel.

Classification.—According to the Gaol Act.

Labour.—The tread-wheels are placed at the extremities of two yards, inclosed with open iron railings. The prisoners receive a penny a-day for their labour upon discharge.

Scale of Tread-Mill Labour.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
								ho. min.		
January...	6½	20	8 Inches.	48 Steps, being 2 revolutions.	20 Minutes on and 10 Minutes off	8,320	520	4 20	No Ergometer recording the Revolutions of the Wheel.	Grinding Corn.
February..	8	..	..			10,240	640	5 20		
March	9	..	..	..		11,520	720	6 0		
April	10	..	..	..	..	12,800	800	6 40		
May.....	10	..	..	..	..	12,800	800	6 40		
June	10	..	..	..	..	12,800	800	6 40		
July.....	10	..	..	..	..	12,800	800	6 40		
August ...	10	..	..	..	..	12,800	800	6 40		
September.	10	..	..	..	..	12,800	800	6 40		
October...	9	..	..	..	..	11,520	720	6 0		
November .	8	..	..	..	..	10,240	640	5 20		
December .	6½	..	..	..	..	8,320	520	4 20		

The females are employed in washing for the officers and male prisoners, and mending and making clothing.

Offences and Punishments.—The usual offences are disorderly conduct and attempts at escape, punished by solitary confinement. Whipping is by order of Sessions; it is of no severity, 60 lashes the greatest number inflicted, the skin not broken. Number of Punishments, see Table.

Scourge.—Handle 15 inches in length, with 9 lashes of heavy whipcord, each 19 inches long, with 4 knots in each.

Irons.—For convicts, 5 lbs.; refractory prisoners, 15 lbs.

Visits.—Prisoners are permitted to receive visits the first Monday in the month, by order of a magistrate. There is no convenient place set apart for this purpose; both parties go to the open rails at the ends of the airing yards, and strangers may thus communicate with all the prisoners in the class. Tobacco is frequently attempted to be passed in this way.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The accounts are kept and settled precisely in the same method as at the House of Correction at Louth.

Expenditure.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
293 18 9	20 6 0	30 9 0	24 0 0	140 13 0 For Sessions' House and public offices annexed.	11 18 3 For Prison and Sessions' House.	. .	. .

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
7 0 0	31 16 0	4 19 0	. .	The Bills for repairs, &c. are lodged with the Clerk of the Peace, according to Act of Parliament.	77 7 3	. .	642 7 3
					Salaries		380 0 0
							1022 7 3
					Deduct Earnings . . .		11 6 11½
					Total . . . £		1011 0 3½

The mill is employed in grinding for the public and the keeper. The charges are 5*s.* 4*d.* per quarter for wheat; beans, barley, and oats, 2*s.* 8*d.*; and for crushing malt, 8*d.* The keeper states,—"Sometimes I gain, and sometimes lose, by the supply of provisions at 5*d.* a-head per day. The mill sometimes loses, and sometimes gains for me; and if I had not the means of purchasing stock, when corn was low, I should have lost. I am allowed 40*l.* a-year for a turnkey, and 30*l.* for a miller. The sum is so small that I am obliged to economize: I consider I lose by the miller in the article of board."

Books.—The books are exactly of the same form as those at Louth.

Keeper's Journal.—Looking over this journal, the infliction of punishment for disorderly conduct appears a rare occurrence. The dates of visits and names of visiters to prisoners are inserted.

General Discipline.—The system of prison government here carried on is that of classification and unchecked association in the day-rooms. The officers say,—"It is impossible for us, on account of other duties, always to attend the mill. The prisoners' conversation is very bad, swearing, and all sorts of bad language are made use of. They frequently talk of a night, before going out, or at Sessions' time. They shout to each other; they can talk from cell to cell." The male prisoners are taken to work occasionally outside the prison, to mowing the grass and cleaning. In May, 1836, a prisoner escaped from the turnkey while thus employed, and was not retaken until 9 months afterwards. The prisoners not able to work at the mill are employed in the garden, and one employed as sweeper cleans the keeper's knives and forks, boots, shoes, &c. There has been one attempt at escape the present year (1837); a boy found a bit of iron used for breaking coals, and with it had removed several bricks out of the wall of his sleeping cell, but was discovered. One of the turnkeys states,—"That they get in tobacco; I found 2½ ounces on the keeper's servant, a boy now lying very ill in the prison, he having attempted to poison himself with arsenic, which he purchased." The chaplain inquired of him his motive. He said, "He did not like to live in prison; why, he did not know. Was not ill treated, but did not like to stop a year in prison." He had not been a week before he ran away, and was taken before the magistrates, and sentenced to 14 days' confinement, and was placed with the misdemeanants. The tobacco was not found on him until after he was taken ill; after some hesitation, he said he had got it for one of the prisoners. He was dangerously ill for a time. The solitary confinement by sentence of Court never exceeds 14 days; it is carried into effect by putting the prisoner alone in a day-room during the day, and removing him to his ordinary sleeping cell at night. The keeper gives the following account of T. G., sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment, the last 14 days solitary:—"He was quite well until when he went into solitary, and two or three days afterwards his mind appeared affected: his dread of being alone was previously very great. He used to cry and go down upon his knees, and suffered greatly both day and night. He threw himself on his knees in the chapel, and did not seem to know what to do with himself. I was fearful he would destroy himself: I called in the surgeon, and he made the following order:—'Ordered, that T. G. be allowed to walk in the yard during the day, whenever Mr. Saunders may think proper.'"

The vagrants are not placed in separate cells at night, but sleep in a day-room: on the day of inspection seven were thus together in a single room, and there had been an instance of as many as 12, several single sleeping cells being at the same time unoccupied. The debtors (from courts for the recovery of small debts) are not allowed to associate with the other prisoners, but boys are occasionally placed in the same ward, to preserve them from contamination. I found 3 in confinement on the day of inspection; 2 for stealing fruit, and the third for stealing a horse. On the female side, 4 females were sleeping in 2 beds, which was thus explained by the matron: that one was subject to fits, and not safe to be left without a companion; another verging on idiotcy, who would never sleep alone, and when put by herself, is up the whole night, incessantly knocking at the doors and disturbing the whole prison; the present making the fourth time of her having been imprisoned. The keeper says,—"The vagrants throw themselves into prison to get cured of diseases, and for a shelter in bad weather. Their conversation and behaviour are worse than any other class of prisoners. Many of them are thieves, who have committed offences in the south and west of England, and come down to hide themselves in the marshes, and are taken up for acts of vagrancy. Has been himself the means of detecting cases of this kind. The misdemeanants are exclusively agricultural labourers. The beer-shops are the cause of a great many coming here. Four-fifths of them declare, that but for the beer-shops they would not have been in. Only 1 female has been transported from hence during 6 years. This was a girl about 18 years of age, and it made, for the time, a great impression upon the prisoners. There are no rules: I go according to the Act of Parliament as near as I can, and in accordance with the discipline enforced in the House of Correction at Louth, as the older prison. My instructions were, to inquire how the other prison was managed, and to follow it."

I recommend, as at Louth, that the practice of paying convicted prisoners for working at the tread-wheel be abolished; that the vagrants and all other prisoners sleep, as far as practicable, in separate cells; that the discipline be increased in intensity by the enforcement of silence; that the means of instruction be provided; that the dangerous practice of working the prisoners outside the walls be discontinued; that partitions be placed on the wheels; that the supplying the prisoners with food by the keeper cease; that a set of rules and regulations for the government of the prison be drawn up and submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

Keeper.—Age 55; appointed 1826; salary 150*l.*, coals, candles, washing, garden, and plot of ground outside; a guinea a day is allowed the keeper for his attendance at the assizes, and 10*s.* 6*d.* at the sessions, independent of mileage for conveying prisoners.

Matron.—Appointed 1826; salary 20*l.*; wife of the keeper.

Turnkey.—Age 33; appointed 1833; wages 14*s.* a week, coals; married; resides in the lodge; read and write.

Miller and Turnkey.—Age 19; appointed 1837; wages 11*l.* 10*s.* annually, and board; resides in the prison.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1827; salary 100*l.*; holds a curacy, with a single duty to perform on Sundays, at a distance of five miles from Spilsby; is also master of the Grammar-school; resides close to the prison.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1827; 30*l.* for medicines and attendance.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c. of PRISONERS confined in the HOUSE of CORRECTION at SPILSBY, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.													
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
17	1	..	..	..	..	28	2	10	..	32	8	..	..	8	..	..	..	63	21	30	6	18	4	149	26	200	36	179	29	22	6

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour or Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
5	1	15	3	10	2	7	..	23	6	30	6	$30\frac{2}{3}\frac{5}{6}\frac{0}{4}$	$5\frac{3}{3}\frac{2}{6}\frac{4}{5}$	44	15	2	..	5	..	169	20	47	5	..	..	6	16	25	5	5	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.							Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																					Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.								Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Tread-wheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Tread-wheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
							Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.							Male.	Fem.			
To this Prison.	..	..	..	..	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.													
Other Prisons.	..	..	..	..																									
	15	2	..	1	16	3	..	..	..	..	46	23	1	3	70	47	2	..	..	10	10	..	2	..	8	1	1	1	10	5*d.*

House of Correction for the Division of Holland at Spalding.

This prison stands in an open space in the town of Spalding, with its principal front to the market-place. It is a plain brick building of four stories, containing 12 cells and 4 rooms on each floor, with the keeper's apartments and chapel in the centre.

Dimensions.

Chapel.—23 ft. by 27 ft.
Sleeping Cells.—6 ft. by 8 ft., 8 ft. 6 in. high.
Day-rooms.—13 ft. by 15 ft.

The roofs and floors of the cells are of Yorkshire paving, the doors of iron, and the windows fitted with iron shutters, and containing a glazed light in their centres. The keeper's house contains a room for the magistrates, turnkey, pantry, and offices on the ground floor; on the first floor one sitting room and three chambers; on the second floor two chambers; and on the third floor two chambers. The chapel is divided into a double range of pens, four for females above, and five for males below, with separate entrances for each sex. It is well contrived, and the sexes secured from communicating with each other. There are six paved airing yards, with water laid on and privies to each. Detached from the principal building at the back are the offices and infirmaries, the latter converted into a ward for the females, who there carry on their washing, &c. The tread-wheels are in two divisions in separate yards.

This prison seems to have been built by the same architect, and constructed on a similar faulty plan to those at Louth and Spilsby. The day-rooms being on different floors, access to the yards and inspection of the prisoners is difficult and imperfect, and the labour of the officers materially increased by this inconvenient disposition. The windows of the cells both in front and rear require blinds. The laundry, where the prisoners' linen is dried, having a boarded floor and open fireplace, is exposed to accident from fire. Water is supplied from two clumsily placed cisterns, elevated upon brick piers to the height of the second story. The privies are offensive, and the drainage generally defective, although great pains have been taken to obviate the inconvenience. The cost of erection was 16,000*l.*, and a portion of the debt incurred is still in course of repayment, and will not be wholly discharged until the year 1845.

Diet.—Prisoners committed for further examination, for trial, for misdemeanors, and debts, 3 lbs. of good wheaten bread daily, 1 lb. of good beef without bone on Tuesday, 4 ounces of oatmeal daily, half a peck of potatoes Saturday.

Prisoners committed for hard labour, except vagrants and paupers from workhouses, 4 lbs. 5 oz. 8 dr. of good bread on Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays; 4 ounces of oatmeal daily.

Vagrants and paupers from workhouses, 2 lbs. 2 oz. 12 dr. of good bread daily.

Salt sufficient for each class. The prisoners cook their food in the day-rooms. Debtors, in addition to the diet, are allowed to purchase provisions, and a pint of ale daily.

Clothing.—No clothing allowed except in case of necessity.

Bedding.—Iron and wooden bedsteads, palliasse, sheets, two blankets and rug.

Fuel.—One bushel of coals every six days to each day-room all the year.

Cleanliness.—The prison clean, with the exception of the day-rooms. Clean linen is issued once a week; sheets every month.

Health.—The surgeon visits the prison twice a week, and daily if required by cases of sickness; he examines the prisoners before they are classed, but does not attend corporal punishments. He states, "I consider the diet sufficient, but could not recommend its reduction, except in the case of the females, who, I think, have too much bread. Intermittent and remittent fever of the typhoid character, and catarrhal affections, are the ordinary ailments. The cases of typhus have been numerous, but were confined principally to one part of the building. It was without doubt generated in the prison: it first showed itself as remittent fever, and was very general with the prisoners on one side of the prison. During its prevalence further professional advice was called in, the sewers were improved, to which the origin of the disease was ascribed, and no case of fever with typhoid symptoms has since occurred. There were no deaths. I think the catarrhal affections principally arise from the prisoners' exposure to the air when heated with the labour of the wheel. The greater proportion of vagrants are infected with eruptive or venereal disease, and often require the terms of their imprisonment for restoration to health. The solitary confinement has been generally for no longer period than a fortnight. I think prisoners do not then require so much food, when the digestion is in an inert state, as when at labour. In most cases where my attention has been called to solitary confinement, there has been a greatly marked alteration in the mind of the prisoners within a fortnight. In those I advert to, the first or last fortnight or week of the term of imprisonment has been solitary. I only visit the prisoners in solitary when sent for, but I scarcely recollect one who has not sent for me, and in the generality of cases I have found it to be the mind that has been affected. I have only been called in when the health has given way, or they have suffered mentally. They are placed in the usual sleeping cells, with 2 lbs. 2 oz. of bread and water daily. I have met with instances of great depression; one in particular, where a prisoner for trial was ordered to be placed alone, who attempted to destroy himself, and was all but gone. He, however, recovered, and a constable was placed along with him."

The surgeon's journal contains entries of his visits, examination of convicts, and the names and diseases of patients. (Number of Sick, see Table.)

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs one service with sermon on Sundays, and visits the prisoners once during the week, distributing tracts and conversing with them. The sacrament has not been administered, no prisoner having been found in a

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suitable state of mind to receive it. He states, "I have not visited the prisoners in solitary confinement, I have thought it might be too great an alleviation. The officers attend Divine service regularly. There is no regular instruction of the prisoners. In some cases they teach one another. They do not take care of the books. They have never solicited me to visit them. I am afraid the appointment of a schoolmaster would not be attended with much benefit. Their ignorance is very great; they read the tracts when they are lively and short, and which tempt them to a perusal when a larger volume will not."

The matron says, "the women are very ignorant, many cannot even handle a needle. There is a prisoner here now who expressed a wish to learn to read; she did not know her letters, and has been taught by the others. This is the only instance I have ever heard of such a desire among them. She is 22 years of age, and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment."

The chaplain's journal contains entries of services performed and tracts distributed. The very useful practice of entering the number of prisoners present at Divine service appears to have been discontinued.

Classification.—The prescribed classification is generally adhered to as respects the males. The females of all classes are placed together, with the exception of the vagrants.

Labour.—The convicted male prisoners labour on the tread-wheel; the females at cleaning, washing, and mending. The prisoners receive no remuneration for their labour.

SCALE OF TREAD-MILL LABOUR.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
January....	7	10	7 Inches.	48	One-third.	11,670	840	7,440	The time is regulated by seconds movement of a Watch.	Grinds corn and dresses flour.
February ...	7½									
March	7½									
April	7½									
May	7½									
June	7½	..	..	..	..	12,600	900	8,400		
July.....	7½									
August	7½									
September..	7½									
October	7½									
November ..	7	..	..	..	..	11,706	840	7,440		
December ..	7	..	..	..	..	11,706	840	7,440		

Offences and Punishments.—The ordinary offences are attempts at escape and disorderly conduct, punished by placing them in irons, and confinement in the refractory cells. No case of whipping has taken place for the space of four years. Number of punishments, see Table.

Scourge.—Handle of hard wood 18 inches in length, with nine lashes of common whipcord each 2 feet long, with knots at the ends.

Irons.—Refractory prisoners, 21 lbs.; transports 7 lbs.

Visits and Letters.—The prisoners see their friends by an order from a magistrate. This is not required for the debtors. Letters are written at the discretion of the keeper, and always inspected by him.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The single article of provisions contracted for, is the beef: the others are purchased by the keeper, the bills for which are sent to him, and the quantities checked by his entries of their delivery; they are then laid before the magistrates in sessions for approval. The treasurer in person pays the several items.

EXPENDITURE from October 1836 to October 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d	£. s. d.
244 12 10¾	3 18 8½	13 18 11	36 18 1½	65 12 2	9 1 10	. .	. .

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract. (if any)	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
7 4 6	4 0 0	34 14 0	. .	45 4 3	40 3 6½	. .	505 8 11¼
						Salaries	290 16 0
						£	796 4 11¼

Books.—Check books are provided for the entry of every article delivered by the tradespeople for the use of the prison, and the signature of the person delivering, but, upon exami-

nation, this useful precaution appeared to have been neglected by the keeper. The last entry in the Butcher's Book was June the 6th, three months back; the Chandler's, June 14th; and the Baker's, in July. This irregularity I found to extend to the entire of the books kept in the prison. In the Day-book and Ledger for the mill accounts, the last entry was January 4th, 1837, when last settled by the treasurer. It appears that the mill books are only made up yearly, and the bills sent out to the customers: thus the baker receives the amount due to him for bread quarterly, while he has 12 months credit for grinding done for him by the county at the tread-wheel. The charge for grinding and dressing wheat is 5*s*. 4*d*. a quarter, being above the usual cost outside the prison; the excellence of the machinery causing a greater return of flour, generally a stone more the quarter.

Keeper's Journal.—This journal has, until June the 30th of the present year, been regularly and properly kept, but from that period there has not been a single entry.

Labour Book.—A similar irregular state to the above.

The keeper states that he has neither a Register of the prisoners, nor a Description Book.

Magistrate's Visiting Book.—Containing entries of orders for supplies for the prison.

From the notice taken at the time, I have reason to trust similar irregularities will not be again found in this branch of the keeper's duties.

General Discipline.—Unchecked association prevails through this prison, neither regularity nor decency at meals are enforced. The diet is abundant, the labour trifling, and the discipline lax. Attempts at escape are frequent. I find one during the last winter thus recorded in the keeper's Journal:—

"This evening at 7 o'clock, the usual time of locking up, on opening the door of the day-room, occupied by Joseph Tow, Thomas Brooklesby, and Charles Blood, Joseph Tow sprung up and seized me by the cravat with his left hand, pressing his fist in my neck, and at the same time striking with his right. Thomas Brooklesby was on the point of laying hold of me, but seeing a party coming to my assistance, he retreated precipitately into the day-room. The turnkey was also seized by Charles Blood."

On the day of inspection, in the debtors'-room I found a board for gambling; and over the fire-place the following inscription:—

"The Rules of this prison is that every fresh member pay one shilling for the good of the company, or else have nothing to eat. To either stand it in ale or meat, as the company thinks proper."

Provisions were strewed about the day-rooms. The keeper states, that "he has frequently complained of the dirt and inconvenience arising from the prisoners cooking the diet for themselves. He thinks they do not derive the support from it they would if obliged to conform to regular meals. They barter their provisions, and sometimes eat at once the whole quantity issued. Has even found it necessary, in order that a man might have an equal support, and who could not resist his appetite, to take his food away from him, dress it, and serve it out to him at regular hours." Communication is incessantly taking place between the male and female prisoners. The matron states, "I frequently see the women up at the windows opposite the cells where the men are, they are constantly calling and talking to each other." The keeper states, "Great difficulty arises from the want of a convenient place for the women. The men who are in the upper story, and those engaged in cleaning the cells during the day, cannot help seeing the women in their yard and laundry below." The turnkey says, "I have seen the women looking out and making signs to the men in the opposite part of the building. I have heard them shout to the men in the morning: it is a frequent practice." The wheel has no partitions for separate labour; the turnkey states, "I watch the mill, but I cannot keep the men from speaking, they will whisper even when I am in the yard: I do not think the labour is very hard."

It appears that by diminishing the quantity of food formerly allowed to vagrants in this prison, their numbers have decreased. The keeper says, "I ascribe the decrease in the number of vagrants to the reduction in the diet allowed to that class. I have known them commit acts of vagrancy for the mere purpose of being committed to prison. They have told me formerly, 'I've heard your diet well spoken of; and we think we cannot do better in the winter than throw ourselves upon you.'"

The inconvenient location of the females, and the admixture of the untried and convicted in one room, are evils which press for a remedy. The whole of the exterior windows of the cells, front and rear, require blinds. I recommend most strongly that the prisoners food be cooked for them, served at fixed hours, and order and decency maintained during meals, the officers being present and superintending; likewise that the wheels be divided for separate labour, and silence enforced generally throughout the prison. A gaol dress for convicted males and females is much required. I am satisfied the labours of the chaplain might be beneficially extended by his reading prayers daily, and superintending the instruction of the prisoners. The employment of the untried prisoners in this way would at least break in upon the idleness, or worse, which now prevails. A set of rules and regulations, to be approved by the Secretary of State, is wanting. The keeper states, "The constables frequently bring prisoners in a state of intoxication, and take no receipt from him for their delivery."

Keeper.—Age 52; appointed 1817; salary, 100*l*.; coals, washing, and garden.

Matron.—Appointed 1829; salary, 15*l*.; wife of the keeper.

Turnkey.—Age 25; appointed 1837; wages, 15*s*. a week; coals; resides in the prison; read and write.

Miller.—Age 57; appointed 1834; married; wages, 18*s*. a week; does not reside in prison; read and write.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1836; salary, 45*l*.; second master of the endowed grammar-school at Spalding.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1825; salary, 40*l*., for medicines and attendance.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the HOUSE of CORRECTION for the Division of HOLLAND, at SPALDING, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.		In Custody at the Commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.															
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
37	1	..	..	..	1	69	10	..	1	30	13	..	..	4	..	2	..	10	4	30	7	17	5	133	27	152	30	181	37	1	..

State of Education . . { Can Read. Males, 33; Females, 14. | Can Read and Write imperfectly. Males, 53; Female, 1. | Can Read and Write well. Males, 3; Females, 0. | Can neither Read nor Write. Males, 60; Females, 18.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour or Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
7	..	6	3	7	1	13	3	13	4	33	7	25	6	35	9	4	4	..	..	74	70	38	..	3	27	..	44	1	4	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.							Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																								Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.								Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day-rooms.	Work-rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.				
							Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.							Male.	Fem.					
To this Prison	..	..	..	..																											
Other Prisons	..	..	..	..																											
	6	10	8	4	Male. 6	Fem. 5	Male. ..	Fem. ..	Male. ..	Fem. ..	Male. 42	Fem. 3	Male. 4	Fem. 1	Male. 60	Fem. 14	8	..	..	9	16	..	2	..	10	1	1	1	7	$5\frac{1}{4}d.$		

House of Correction for the Division of Holland, at Skirbeck.

This small prison is situate in the hamlet of Skirbeck, about a mile from Boston, and on ground formerly belonging to the overseers of the poor, from whom it was obtained by the magistrates of the county. Legal obstacles have prevented its conveyance, and the purchase has never been completed. The yearly interest of the sum agreed upon is paid to the overseers. Debtors from the courts of request for the parts of Holland, and prisoners under remand and summary convictions, are detained here; those convicted at the sessions are ordinarily sent to the larger establishment at Spalding. The fabric consists of a house for the keeper, and an irregular range of buildings in the rear for prisoners. The part occupied by the prisoners contains three stories, the rooms in the two first are arched, those in the third are ceiled with lath and plaster.

Dimensions.

4 rooms	9 ft. 11 in. by 8 ft.
2 „	12 ft. 8 in. by 10 ft. 8 in.
1 „	22 ft. by 10 ft. 8 in.
2 „	17 ft. by 9 ft. 11 in.

There are 4 small airing yards, with privies in each. This prison, from defective construction and entire want of convenience, is unfit for its purpose. Sixpence a day is allowed for the maintenance of each prisoner, which they spend as they please, settling with the keeper every Monday morning. Coals are provided all the year round. Two prisoners sleep together in wooden bedsteads. The bedding consists of a palliasse, three blankets, and rug. No chaplain ever attends, nor is divine service performed. Bibles are provided. The prisoners see their friends when they wish it, without a magistrate's order. A surgeon attends when sent for, in cases of illness, but not otherwise. There is a tread-wheel, but the number of prisoners sentenced to hard labour is scarcely ever sufficient to work it, and they are employed in breaking stones. The keeper states,—"The magistrates seldom visit: at the last sessions eight prisoners were sentenced to transportation, and remained here from the 28th June to the 15th July. They were in irons the whole time. The prisoners sometimes quarrel. They either wash for themselves, pay for its being done out of the 6*d.*, or have friends outside who do it for them. The accounts are settled quarterly; he keeps several small books in which he inserts his disbursements."

Expenditure from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
78 0 0	1 3 10	12 6 0	14 17 8	9 7 0	0 8 11	. .	. .

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract, (if any.)	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
3 10 0	4 19 0	33 5 10	77 9 0 For support of Prisoners sent to the House of Correction at Spalding, in the parts of Holland.	8 6 4	14 6 6	. . Salaries . .	258 0 1 64 14 0
					Interest of Purchase Money for land on which the Prison stands . .		3 15 0
					No Receipts. £		326 9 1

A register is kept arranged under the usual heads.

Upon going through this prison I found the rooms dirty, provisions and newspapers lying about, and no distinction preserved between the debtors and those under criminal charges.

Keeper.—Age 64; salary £50; £2. 2*s.* for attending the magistrates every week at Boston; about £4 a-year from the labour of the prisoners in breaking stone; is allowed £10, yearly, for finding coals for the prison.

Surgeon.—Salary £12. 12*s.* for medicines and attendance.

Note.—Since my inspection, the magistrates have made an arrangement with the town council at Boston, by which this defective prison will be discontinued, and the prisoners henceforth be committed to the borough gaol of that place, until other measures are decided upon.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the HOUSE of CORRECTION for the Division of HOLLAND, at SKIRBECK, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
8	..	..	..	..	..	24	3	1	..	15	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	20	2	9	..	11	6	70	6	90	12	84	11	6	1

State of Education . . . { Can neither Read nor Write. Males, 39; Females, 6. | Can Read only. Males, 14; Females, 4. | Can Read or Write, or both, imperfectly. Males, 19; Females, 2. | Can Read and Write well. Males, 18. } Total. Males, 90; Females, 12.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour or Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being Hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.													None to the Keeper's knowledge.	..
3	..	6	..	1	..	1	..	9	..	10	..	8 200/365	..	15	3	4	6	..	..	64	30	8	..	..	..	..	14	none	5	none		

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																						Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.						Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day-rooms.	Work-rooms.	Tread-wheel Houses.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.	Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.					
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below Ground.										
To this Prison	8	4	4	..	Male.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.															
Other Prisons	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	2	16	5	..	..	..	4	4	1	1	..	..	No Infirmaries: when Prisoners are sick, a room appropriated to them.	One Bathing Tub.	4	6d.

FALKINGHAM.—House of Correction for the Division of Kesteven.

This house of correction is situate at a small distance from the post town of Falkingham, and occupies the site of an ancient fortress, the committals thereto being made "to the Castle." It is a modern elevation of two stories, and surrounded with a boundary wall of brick of octagonal form. The entrance is through a gate of open iron work faced with stone. The lodge at the gate contains apartments for a turnkey, a crank-mill for corn, and a reservoir for supplying the prison with water. The prison originally consisted only of the present frontage, now occupied by the keeper and the female prisoners, but was afterwards enlarged by the addition of a range of buildings in the rear in the form of an extended horseshoe connected at the ends, and leaving an open area between the two, divided into airing yards and a passage to the chapel. The inspection of these yards is from the back of the keeper's house. The day-rooms and tread-wheels occupy the ground floor of the range, and the latter are inspected from the upper story, as from a gallery. The chapel is behind the new buildings, on the ground floor, very damp, and inconveniently small: it contains six pens for the prisoners. The cells for refractory prisoners and solitary confinement are deficient in size and ventilation, and not sufficiently secluded to prevent communication.

Dimensions of Cells, &c.

	Height.	Length.	Breadth.
	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.
New cells	7 9	8 7	4 7½
	8 4	8 7½	4 4
	8 5	8 10	5 5
	8 3	8 8	4 4¼
	8 4	8 2	4 2
	8 2¾	7 10	4 3½
Infirmary	10 5	16 7	9 4
	10 7	11 4	9 0
Old cells	8 5	8 0	6 4½
	8 4	6 11½	6 11
	8 6	7 11	6 2
	8 6	8 0	6 2
Old infirmary	8 3	13 3½	8 0
Refractory cell	8 4½	8 0	6 11
Chapel	..	21 ft. and 16 ft. 6 in.	26 0

The keeper's house contains a room for the magistrates, pantry and kitchen on the ground floor, sitting-room and three chambers above.

The plan of this prison is inconvenient, and its size altogether too small for the number of prisoners frequently confined here. As many as 65 have been inmates at one time. It contains but 30 single cells, inclusive of those for the refractory, and six rooms for the lodging of more than one prisoner.

Very great inconvenience results from the windows of the sleeping cells being opposite to each other, and affording facilities of intercourse, and also from the airing yards for the females being in front of the prison, and exposed to the view of every person at the gate. The former might be obviated by blinds, and the latter by boarding up the open iron fence. The supply of water for the use of the prison is insufficient, and occasions the most objectionable practice of the prisoners being taken beyond the walls to procure it.

Diet.—Summer, 1 pint of oatmeal gruel daily, made from 1½ ounce of oatmeal; winter, 2 pints of oatmeal gruel daily, made from 3 ounces of oatmeal.

Convicted prisoners, gruel as above, and 2 lbs. of bread daily for one month, and afterwards the usual diet. All other prisoners, 2 lbs. of bread daily, and ½ lb. of meat and broth on Sundays, which is considered the usual diet. Women, with children, 1 pint of milk and ½ lb. of bread a-day.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, palliasse, 2 blankets, and rug.

Fuel.—Coals are supplied to the day-rooms in winter only, at the discretion of the keeper.

Clothing.—No clothing issued, except in cases of actual necessity.

Cleanliness.—The prison clean.

Health.—The attendance of the surgeon is as required by illness. He attends corporal punishments, but does not see the prisoners before they are classed. The prison is generally healthy, the itch the most prevalent disease. The scurvy lately made its appearance among the prisoners. The surgeon states, in explanation, "The prisoners were formerly allowed to have as much salt as they pleased, and used to eat a large quantity, spreading it over their bread. At the same time with the scurvy, there were several cases of strangury, which were difficult to account for but from the salt. I ordered the salt to be taken away, since which there have been no fresh cases of either malady. I have a doubt upon the subject of the dietary. They have a very small quantity of animal food; and, in the event of any new cases of scurvy, I should say the diet ought to be altered. The salt has not been discontinued a sufficient length of time to say whether it has been the sole cause of the scurvy. There is much of simulated disease to avoid the tread-wheel. Prisoners have been put on the tread-

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NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Falkingham. House of Correction.

wheels with ruptures, and, upon complaining have been provided with trusses." The surgeon keeps a journal arranged under the following heads :—Name—disease—when taken—convalescent—diet—dismission—remarks. There have been two deaths during the year. Extracts from the surgeon's journal :—

"28th May, 1837. R. R.—An attack of bowel complaint, followed by fever of the typhoid character, put an end to his earthly career."

The case of the second death appears to require some notice.

"I. C., 63 years of age, was sentenced to three calendar months' imprisonment, with three weeks' solitary confinement at intervals of a week."

This man appears to have been in the sick list from the 16th of November, when he is entered in the surgeon's journal as having swelled legs. He was placed, pursuant to his sentence, for one week in solitary confinement, on the 29th of October, and, for the second week, on the 3d of December, when on the sick list. It does not appear that the keeper applied to the surgeon previously for his sanction to place him there. The keeper states, in evidence, "That, on Friday, December 9th, in the morning, C. said he had been very ill in the night. The keeper found him very cold, and removed him from the solitary cell into a room with a fire, and appointed two prisoners to be with him. He seemed to revive a little before the fire, and the surgeon was immediately sent for." The following are extracts from the surgeon's journal :—

"9th December. I. C.—Fever. Was taken in the night with severe shivering, followed by fever and severe twitching of the limbs. He now seems a little better, but is very ill. 9 P. M.
"10th December. Insensible to take anything in the way of food or medicine. 10 A. M. died."

I have received a further communication from the surgeon to the following effect :—

"I. C. complained of indisposition first on the 16th of October. His complaint then appeared of a trifling nature, and, on the 22d, he returned to the wheel duty. A few days afterwards he complained of swelling in the legs and weakness. On taking him from the wheel, and allowing him half a pint of ale daily, and broth, he got considerably better, but still looked ill. On the 9th of December a message was sent me to see him immediately, as they thought he was dying. On the previous night (Friday) he was attacked, being at that time in the solitary cell, with a violent shivering fit, and was imperfectly sensible, from which he never recovered, and he died on Sunday. Early on the Saturday morning he was placed in the infirmary."

Number of Sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs two services, with one sermon, on the Sabbath, and reads prayers two days in the week. The prisoners in solitary confinement do not attend chapel. The chaplain does not see the prisoners individually for the purposes of admonition, nor have the sick in all cases been visited by him. The hours for the performance of divine service are irregular, no precise time being appointed on the Sabbath or the week days. The chaplain distributes tracts and elementary books to the prisoners, provided from the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge. He has never administered the Sacrament in the prison, not having found any prisoner in a state of mind to enable him to do so. A very neat sacramental chalice and patera of silver belongs to the prison, the gift of Sir Montague Cholmeley. It is inscribed "Folkingham Castle, Gift of Sir M. Cholmeley, Bart., 1811," and I believe has never been used. The chaplain states the following to be his reasons for not seeing the prisoners privately :—

"I not only read the lessons, but address them most commonly from each lesson. I explain the subject matter to them personally, and apply it to them individually by bringing the subject to bear upon themselves ; and the attentive ear, and the glistening eye, and the suffused cheek of many a veteran sinner would tell me I speak not to an inattentive and unedified audience, were it not that I dare place no reliance on such appearances in such characters, whose whole manner of life has been a perpetual scene, by far too frequently, of duplicity and dissimulation, and whose chief aim is to impose, to cheat, and to deceive, and who, alas! glory in this their shame. For this reason *I avoid seeking*, except in particular cases, any private conversation with the prisoners. When I first entered upon my duties as chaplain, which was previous to the present keeper's appointment, I weekly visited each day-room, which the late matron can verify ; but I found the prisoners making such shocking pretences to religion, acting so perfectly the hypocrite, and, as subsequent circumstances have proved, all with some sinister motive in view to gain my favour, that I might interest myself in their behalf, that they might work upon my feelings to obtain some pecuniary donation at the period of their liberation, or from a wonted wish to indulge their evil propensity for deception, that I, at length, deemed it more prudent for their spiritual improvement to make my solemn addresses to them in public, and not in private, that I might not be the instrument in tempting them to add sin to sin, that they might have no worldly object to induce them to be clad in the garb of hypocrisy."

The duties of the chaplain might be beneficially extended, and should be strictly defined by the magistrates. On going through this prison on the Sabbath I found the prisoners not paying the slightest respect to its observance, they were huddled together in the day-rooms, laughing and idling away their time. If no instruction be afforded on the working days of the week, surely it might be on the one of rest by the establishment of a Sunday-school, under the superintendence of the chaplain. I consider the irregularity of the performance of Divine service, in most cases without any previous notice from the chaplain, as very indecorous, and rather calculated to diminish than impress the minds of the prisoners with a sense of its importance. I can neither admit his reasons to be sufficient for withholding himself from a personal intercourse with the prisoners. The little actual benefit that may appear to ourselves to result from the performance of a public duty may be discouraging, but is no justification for its abandonment. The chaplain furnishes from his own resources the elementary books and tracts used in the prison, which I conceive it to be a paramount duty of the magis-

trates to supply. The only journal kept by him consists of entries and dates of duties performed in the prison.

Classification.—The males are classed according to the provisions of the Gaol Act, but being all mingled together at the wheel, it may be said, as regards the convicted, to be merely nominal. The females are divided into two classes of untried and convicted. The tread-wheel is without partitions. It occasionally happens that there are several more sentenced to labour than the wheels will hold. The means of inspection there are indifferent, and although silence is enjoined, yet it is very imperfectly observed.

The crank wheel in the lodge is occasionally made use of by the keeper for grinding corn, but its situation is far from secure, and there is a great difficulty of procuring grain for its supply.

SCALE OF TREAD-MILL LABOUR.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
								Revolution of the Wheel.		
January	7½	12	7½	Twice	One-fourth.	13,500	900	675		
February ...	7½	..	Inches.	per	..	13,500	900	675		
March	10	..	..	Minute.	..	18,000	12,000	900		
April	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	12,000	900		
May	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	12,000	900		To no
June.....	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	12,000	900		useful
July.....	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	12,000	900	No Record.	pur-
August.....	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	12,000	900		pose.
September..	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	12,000	900		
October	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	12,000	900		
November ..	7½	..	..	..	..	13,500	900	675		
December ..	7½	..	..	..	..	13,500	900	675		

The females sentenced to hard labour are put to the coarsest and hardest work, while the untried are employed in lighter offices.

Offences and Punishments.—The ordinary offences are attempts at escape, talking on the wheel, cursing and swearing, punished by solitary confinement. (Number of punishments, see table.)

Scourge.—Common whip handle with nine lashes of small whip-cord, 19 inches long. The punishment inflicted very trifling. Irons, weight 9 lbs.

Visits and Letters.—Visits by order from the magistrates, generally on a Sunday, the day on which the country people have the most leisure. Letters at the discretion of the keeper, but always inspected.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The bread is furnished by contract. The oatmeal is purchased at Hull, in quantities of 80 stone at a time, and is weighed off daily to the prisoners according to their number. The quantity of meat required is too small to be worth supplying by contract, and is therefore bought by the keeper. The bills are sent in quarterly to the keeper, who checks them with the accounts of quantities received, then sends them to the clerk of the peace to be laid before the sessions for approval. The keeper receives the gross amount in money from the treasurer, pays the items, and transmits the bills and receipts to the clerk of the peace.

EXPENDITURE from October Sessions 1836, to October Sessions 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
188 10 4½	25 9 7	20 9 1½	13 6 6	75 13 6	2 11 0	1 0 2	.

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners, as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
8 8 0	33 10 9	19 9 3	. .	54 9 3½	35 19 4½	. .	
						Salaries . .	330 0 0
						Total .	808 16 11

Books.—Provision book, showing the quantity of provisions consumed, and their amount, weekly.

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Register.—Containing names, offences, and labour of prisoners.

Description Book.—As at Cambridge.

Punishment Book.—Date—prisoner's name—offence—punishment—when inflicted—by whom—when discontinued—by whom.

General Discipline.—An increase of attention on the part of the visiting magistrates to the management of this prison would, I am satisfied, be followed by very beneficial results. The officers are left too much, indeed entirely, to their own discretion, and to this many of the existing irregularities may be traced. I find from the visiting justices book that their visits to the prison during the space of 15 months have only been as follows:—22d October 1836, 21st April 1837, 5th July 1837, 18th October 1837, 14th December 1837.

I recommend most strongly that the prisoners should never be taken beyond the walls, as they are now, to clean the moat, to fetch water, or to work in the keeper's field. Upon examining the gums of a prisoner I found his mouth full of tobacco, which he had procured while at work outside. The following account of actual escapes in the years 1836-1837, sufficiently show the insecurity of the practice, even were it free from other objections:—

W. W. a convicted felon, escaped on the 23d day of June 1836, from William Cullen, turnkey, when employed in cleaning out the moat by order of the magistrates, and not retaken.

T. R., a deserter, escaped 23d of January 1837, by scaling the walls, and not retaken.

E. U., a convicted felon, escaped 30th October 1837, from Edward Stevenson, turnkey, when fetching water from the moat, and was retaken by the keeper on the 23d day of November 1837.

RETURN of all Prisoners employed on the day of Inspection, with Amount of Extra Allowance, &c.

	Names.	Offences.	entence.	Previous Committals.	Previous Offence.	Description of Allowance, &c.
Cleaning out moat by order of the Magistrates.	Edward Husher .	Felony.	One Year.	1	Felony.	This prisoner is also cook.
	James Taylor. . .	Ditto.	9 cal. Months.	,,	Ditto.	No extra diet for that.
	Thomas Holland .	Ditto.	Ditto.	,,	Ditto.	2 lbs. of bread and 1 pint of ale daily, during the time employed cleaning out the moat.
	John Bullock . .	Ditto.	Ditto.	,,	Ditto.	
	George Loveday .	Ditto.	Ditto.	,,	Ditto.	
	William Smith . .	Ditto.	3 cal. Months.	,,	Ditto.	
	Nicholas Carpenter	Ditto.	Ditto.	,,	Ditto.	
Sweeper	William Porter . .	Ditto.	18 cal. Months.	,,	Ditto.	No extra diet.

Prisoners have likewise been kept up after the usual hours in cleaning the keeper's horse. This prison is left at the time of the sessions, or upon the transmission of a female convict to Lincoln, without the presence of a female officer, the matron accompanying the keeper her husband on these occasions. Although this is an important duty, yet I consider it extremely improper that the female prisoners should be thus left; they are locked up in their wards, and if illness or accident of any sort should occur, there would be no possibility of affording them assistance. The matron takes the female prisoners to and from Divine service, but does not remain there during its performance. I recommend that the keeper should insert in his journal all his absences from the prison, and their cause, and likewise that he should be more cautious in his general conduct. I refer to the head of Moral and Religious Instruction for a notice of sundry defects in that most important branch of discipline. I recommend that partitions should be placed upon the tread-wheel, and that the female airing yards should be better secured from public observation. The number of females appears to be on the increase, and the accommodation for them is very circumscribed. A set of rules for the government of this prison is much required.

Keeper.—Age 31; appointed 1834; salary, 100*l.*; coals, candles, and washing; plot of ground without the walls.

Turnkey.—Age 23; appointed 1834; miller; single; salary, 40*l.*; coals and candles; resides in the lodge; left the prison since.

Turnkey.—Age 28; appointed 1830; coals and candles; resides in prison; read and write.

Matron.—Appointed 1834; wife of the keeper; salary, 20*l.*

Chaplain.—Appointed 1833; salary, 80*l.*; curate at Falkingham.

Surgeon. Salary, 40*l.*, for medicines and attendance.

different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.										Under the Vagrant Law.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the Course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
..	..	..	..	..	..	67	17	4	..	60	10	..	..	16	..	1	..	16	3	26	2	2	..	162	30	164	30	147	29	17	1

State of Prisoner's Instruction. . . } Can neither Read nor Write. Males, 47; Females, 15. | Can Read and Write imperfectly. Males, 117; Females, 14. | Can Read and Write well. 1 Female. | Total. Males, 164; Females, 30.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.			Tread-wheel.	Pumping Water, washing the Prison Linen, cleaning the Prison, &c.	Prisoners for Trial, and Prisoners not sentenced to hard Labour.									
..	..	11	..	7	..	18	6	18	..	36	6	29 and a Fraction.	5 and a Fraction.	39	7	11	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	103	..	38	10	13	1	Unknown.	None.

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																											
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.						Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing-Yards.	Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.											
To this Prison.	1	1	1	..																											
Other Prisons.	..	..	..																												
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.									Male.	Fem.			
	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	1	2	3	60	10	3	1	..	8	8	2	1	..	6	1	1	1	8	d. 3¾			

LINCOLN.—City Gaol and House of Correction.

This prison is connected with the sessions-house, and stands in an open, airy situation, on ground the property of the corporation. The sessions-house is a neat brick elevation, with an open space in front separating it from the public road. The prison is placed at the back, and, besides the keeper's house, contains on the ground floor four day-rooms, four cells, and seven airing-yards and tread-wheel. The rooms are 17 ft. 6 in. by 10 ft., and the cells 10 ft. by 8 ft. In the first floor are two sleeping-rooms, each 17 ft. 6 in. by 10 ft., and eight cells 9 ft. 9 in. by 7 ft. 6 in.; two airing-yards 29 ft. by 21 ft.; two ditto 29 ft. by 18 ft.; one ditto 29 ft. by 13 ft. 6 in.; two ditto 16 ft. by 11 feet 6 inches; three refractory cells 10 ft. 2 in. by 5 ft. 10 in., 8 ft. 4 in. high. The keeper's apartments consist of kitchen and sitting-room on the ground floor, and four chambers on the first floor. There is neither chapel nor infirmary. Divine service is performed to the prisoners in the court-house. The refractory cells are detached from the main buildings. The roofs of these cells are sheeted with iron, in a decayed state, and above them is a loft, very easily reached, and from which escape is easy. The roof of the tread-wheel shed being simply lath and plaster, and abutting beyond the boundary wall, is very insecure Three of the airing-yards are only fenced at their ends with a slight stockade, offering no impediment to a prisoner's clambering over them, which not unfrequently happens. All the airing-yards are unpaved. On the convicted side the privies are most offensively placed in the centre of the yards. It is scarcely possible to conceive a building more inconvenient for its purposes than the city gaol of Lincoln.

Diet.—The town council allow 5*d.* per day to each prisoner for his maintenance, which they are permitted to expend as they please. The keeper says, "I go round with a slate, they give me their orders, and I cater for them; sometimes they will order at once sufficient for two or three days, and are without any thing the rest. One boy, between 10 and 11 years of age, was actually furnished in one day with the following quantities of provisions: breakfast, coffee and bread; dinner, ½ lb. of bacon, ½ peck green peas, two basins of broth; supper, coffee and bread. It takes an hour every morning to mark for them." He is obliged to buy and keep by him in the house a variety of articles, such as tea, coffee, onions, &c. Occasionally two or three prisoners board together, they order what they want at a time, and he settles with them once a week; sometimes they are in credit, sometimes in debt. There are a number of knives, forks, plates, &c. in the prison, for which each prisoner on coming in pays a sort of garnish, and acquires a property in them. If one comes in without money, the keeper supplies him with utensils, and stops it out of his allowance for maintenance. The females are upon the same footing as the males.

Clothing.—No prison dress. When a prisoner is without clothing secondhand clothes are purchased.

Bedding.—Wooden bedstead, palliasse, two blankets, and rug.

Fuel.—Coals allowed all the year round, two pecks to each room every third day.

Cleanliness.—The cells and passages clean; the day-rooms, from the practice of cooking in them, dirty. No bath in the prison.

Health.—The surgeon has no fixed salary. He attends when required by sickness. He states, "There is no place set apart for the sick. A case of typhus occurred which was fatal; a female who nursed the prisoner also took the disease, but recovered. The vagrants mostly come in with the itch, and have communicated it to others in the prison. His bills have averaged about £20 a-year; the principal expense has been for attending vagrants."

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs one full service with sermon on Sunday, and visits the prison twice a-week. He sees the prisoners at those periods, but not for the purpose of reading or instruction. He says, "I believe the books generally pass through my hands; I have provided elementary books, but have found rather an aversion to instruction among the prisoners than otherwise. There is a general want of order and arrangement through the establishment. The sacrament was administered to the prisoner who died of typhus. Many of the prisoners can read, but have no knowledge of religion. The boy now in solitary confinement has some vague ideas of religion: somebody told him previously he would go to the devil, and he asked me whether there really was a devil?" The chaplain keeps no journal.

Labour.—The male prisoners sentenced to hard labour are placed upon the tread-wheel, or employed in shoemaking, &c.; the women do the prison washing. The untried have latterly been taught to knit. There is none except upon the tread-wheel. They go on at nine, come off at twelve, on again at half-past one until dark.

Scale of Tread-wheel Labour.

Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
7 Hours from Michaelmas to Lady-day; 9 Hours from Lady-day to Michaelmas.	12	Inches. 8	One.	Equal.	From Michaelmas to Lady-day 6720; from Lady-day to Michaelmas 8640.	From Michaelmas to Lady-day 420; from Lady-day to Michaelmas 540.	From Michaelmas to Lady-day 7 Hours; from Lady-day to Michaelmas 9 Hours.	The Turnkey attends to see that the Prisoners work the Wheel: there is no way of answering this otherwise.	None.

Irons.—Weight 9 lbs.

Visits.—To the untried on any day, and on Monday to the convicted by order from a magistrate. Visits to the debtors are not permitted to be for a longer period than half an hour for each visitor.

Accounts, Books, Expenditure.—The keeper pays the daily allowance of 5*d.* to the prisoners in advance, and is repaid quarterly after his book has been duly examined by the magistrates.

Books.—Allowance book with entries of the name—number of days—amount of allowance—and date of prisoners' discharge.

Magistrates' Order Book.—Containing orders for clothing and necessaries.

Register.—Arranged under the same heads as at Lincoln Castle.

Commitment Book under the heads of—Number—when committed—name—age—where born—crime—by whom committed—sentence—discharge—remarks.

Journal.—Containing entries of punishments.

EXPENDITURE from October Sessions 1836 to October Sessions 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
99 12 9	0 6 0	18 12 5	16 2 4	45 12 3	51 7 3	.. They cooked and washed for themselves.	..

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any.)	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries, including Medicines.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1 3 0	..	17 11 0	..	41 6 2	29 0 4	..	320 13 6
					Keeper's Salary . .		85 0 0
					Turnkey's ditto . .		35 0 0
					Chaplain's ditto . .		25 0 0
						Total . .	465 13 6

Discipline.—Indifferent as the state of this prison is at present, it is greatly improved since the inspector's visit in May 1835. Its filthy and disorderly state at that period is hardly to be credited. Another and more active keeper has been appointed, but what with the inconvenient construction, limited assistance, and wretched system of management here pursued, it is impossible to expect any other result but that its inmates must leave it morally worse than they entered. I cannot too strongly reprobate the practice of allowing prisoners a daily sum of money, with permission to purchase whatever articles they please. The debtors from a local court for the recovery of debts under 40*s.*, if they do not receive the 4*d.* a-day, may have what quantity of beer they please. The keeper states, "The prisoners care nothing for the confinement nor for the labour on the wheel. He has detected the men and women in communication with each other." The only turnkey states his duty to be as follows: "To sweep the passages and crossing, wash the steps, remove the ashes, bring the coals, overlook the tread-wheel, assist at locking up and unlocking, and to act as clerk to the chaplain on Sundays, an accumulation of offices quite impossible to satisfactorily be performed by an individual. The prisoners will not be quiet on the wheel; at times they pay no attention to what I say." The turnkey further states, "They talk at night, and frequently throw articles over the walls of the airing-yards to each other. The yards not being paved, they throw stones and break the windows." Upon my going through the prison, I found the prisoners were sleeping two in a bed contrary to law. In the day-rooms were books, newspapers, and other articles lying promiscuously about. One prisoner had kept a regular diary in the following form:—

"July 4th. Election polling day." "Peg Ley come back for three days." Others had in their possession a bill of Wombwell's menagerie, a printed election squib under the title of "Entry for Lincoln Races." "Account of Mrs. Pallister, and of the wonderful appearances which rested upon the surface." "Report of the trial of John Dempsey for murder, 1836." "Marmontel's Moral Tales." "Miscellaneous Poems." "Lord Byron's Woman." On others were found money amounting to several shillings; one man had sold his coat to another for 2*s.* The forms and benches were covered with the marks of gambling.

There is no responsible paid female officer to attend upon the women, the keeper's wife doing the duty gratuitously. Much improvement may be effected in this prison notwithstanding its faulty construction, which seems almost irremediable. A suitable diet, the enforcement of regularity at meals, the appointment of a matron and an additional turnkey, a gaol dress, at

least for the convicted prisoners, and a restriction upon the quantity of clothes and other articles improperly brought into the prison, the providing a bath, some attention to the moral and religious instruction of the prisoners, all would be beneficial. These and other recommendations have been laid before the town council and magistrates, and I have every expectation that many of the defects in the present Report will be speedily remedied.

Officers.—Keeper, age 36; appointed 1837; salary 80*l.*

Turnkey.—Age 27; appointed 1837; salary 40*l.*

Chaplain.—Appointed 1828; salary 25*l.* Has the curacy of Nettlesham, and is master of "the Lincoln Grammar-school."

NOTE.—Since the Inspector's visit, a regular diet has been established, salaries awarded to the surgeon and matron, and a set of rules for the government of the prison been drawn up, and received the sanction of the Secretary of State.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanants.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Trial by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.		In Custody at the Commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitment, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.															
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
6	2	..	..	..	..	22	5	23	5	25	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	16	13	1	..	..	73	28	86	29	65	25	9	2
19	1*																												
25	3																												

The ages of the 13 and 1, making 14 in custody at the commencement of the year, the present gaoler cannot make out.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.										Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.																					
																Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.															
..	..	2	1	5	1	..	1	7	1	7	2	Not ascertainable from the want of books.		21	2	..	..	..	..	72 This includes debtors.	None.	None.	None.	None.	This information cannot be given, for the reasons before assigned.	None.	The information cannot be given, for the reasons before assigned.	None.	None.	None.	None.

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																						Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.										Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.							Male.	Fem.			
To this Prison.	..	..	..	..	Male. 1 Summary convictions. Fem. 2	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
Other Prisons.	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	8	1	2	1	29	6	..	..	..	7	7	..	2	1	2	..	..	1	7	*d.* $4\frac{1}{2}$ and 5*d.*
	6	3	..	2																								

* These were committed in the course of the year for nonpayment of debts under 40*s.* by process from the Commissioners of the Court of Requests, and nearly all of them liberated themselves after a few days' imprisonment.

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Boston. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

BOSTON.—BOROUGH GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

This prison stands on ground the property of the corporation, known as the Dock Pasture. It is detached from other buildings, and is the most insecure place of confinement I have met with for prisoners under criminal charges, it being even without the protection of a boundary wall. It is a plain elevation of three stories, with the apartments for prisoners ranged on each side of central passages. On the ground floor are seven day-rooms, with airing-yard attached. First floor, chapel, and seven sleeping-cells, with arched roofs and brick floors. Second floor, seven cells, four with lath and plaster ceilings; from these upper rooms many attempts at escape have been made.

Dimensions.

Airing-yards,	1,	37 ft. by 38 ft.
,,	1,	15 ft. by 18 ft.
,,	1,	21 ft. by 38 ft.
,,	1,	28 ft. by 38 ft.
,,	1,	15 ft. diameter.
Day-rooms,	5,	10 ft. by 8 ft
,,	1,	16½ ft. by 11 ft.
The chapel,		10 ft. 4 in. by 15 feet.
Sleeping cells,	10,	10 ft. by 8 ft,
,,	1,	17 ft. by 10 ft.
,,	2,	14½ ft. by 10 ft.
,,	2,	11 ft. by 8 ft.

The drainage appears to be defective, the privies are offensively exposed in the centre of the yards, and the buildings are not fire-proof.

Diet.—The keeper is allowed sixpence a-day for the maintenance of the prisoners. He states, that if the price of provisions be low, there is a trifling profit to himself in providing the following diet.

Bread, 8 lbs. weekly.

Breakfast and supper, 1 pint of gruel.

Dinner, Sundays and Thursdays, ½ lb. of meat weighed after cooking, without bone, and 1 lb. of potatoes; Monday and Friday, 1 pint of soup, with onions and vegetables; Tuesday and Wednesday, 1 pint of gruel, and 1 lb. of potatoes.

Clothing.—No regular clothing.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, hemp mattress, 3 blankets and rug.

The prisoners sleep two and three in a bed.

Fuel.—A peck of coals, from Michaelmas to Lady-day, is the daily allowance for each day-room.

Health.—The surgeon attends only when required by illness and at corporal punishments.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs one service on the Sunday afternoon, besides making occasional visits. The prisoners are supplied with Testaments. The keeper states in evidence, "That a dissenting minister attends on Thursdays without being requested to do so by the prisoners, and has brought others with him; he distributes tracts, and addresses the prisoners; the tracts are those of the Religious Tract Society; the prisoners have not evinced any disposition to attend to him; the mayor gave me a verbal order to admit him whenever he requested it." The chaplain states, "No application of the sort was made to me."

Labour.—The tread-wheel for the males and females moves with the same velocity, and is on the same shaft. Before the tread-wheel for the males is a contrivance for keeping the prisoners at labour, which is a novelty to me. A pit or trough of water, about 3 feet deep, extends the whole length of the wheel to prevent prisoners jumping off. The keeper states, "That they have frequently in sport knocked one another off the wheel into this dyke, and that some under the pretext of exhaustion have dropped themselves into it."

SCALE OF TREAD-WHEEL LABOUR.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheel will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
The same throughout the Year.	5*	14	7½ Inches.	3 Revolutions per Minute.	If 12 prisoners two-thirds on and one-third off, and a like proportion for a greater or less number.	68,250	450	No particular amount beyond the time employed.	No particular mode adopted; the prisoners are employed ten minutes at a time.	None but labour.

* But only on the wheel 2 hours and 30 minutes, every alternate ten minutes being allowed for rest.

Punishments and Offences.—Whipping is inflicted by the keeper, who receives a fee of 5*s.* on each occasion. The greatest number of lashes ever given were six dozen, but generally less. The surgeon and chief constable are invariaby present.

Scourge.—Handle of hard wood, with nine lashes of small whipcord.

Irons.—For the refractory, 12½ lbs.; transports, 5 lbs.
Prisoners in solitary confinement receive 2 lbs. of bread only.

Visits.—By order of a magistrate.

EXPENDITURE from OCTOBER SESSIONS 1836, to OCTOBER SESSIONS 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
59 6 0	..	..	..	20 19 7	0 10 0	..	..

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations & Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
..	..	..	..	..	7 0 0	..	87 15 7
						Salaries . .	126 0 0
						Total . £	213 15 7

The only book kept is for the purpose of inserting the sums due to the keeper for the maintenance of the prisoners. It contains the name of each, and entries of punishments and occurrences.

General Discipline.—The town of Boston not having received a grant of quarter-sessions, this prison, since the passing of the Municipal Act, has been neglected, and the marks of it were very apparent on the day of inspection. The drains and privies were in want of cleansing, the pumps were so out of order as to be useless, and no magistrate had visited for months. Books and newspapers were in the day-rooms. The prisoners ordinarily confined here are debtors from a local Court of Requests, those summarily convicted, and under examination. The insecurity of the building cannot be better illustrated than by the annexed Return.

The Borough of Boston, in the County of Lincoln. } A RETURN of the NUMBER of PRISONERS who have escaped and attempted to escape from the Borough Gaol within the last five years.

Attempts.		Escapes.	
1832	1	1832	1
1833	1	1833	1
1836	2	1834	1
1837	4	1837	2
Total	8	Total	5

Keeper.—Age 49; appointed 1820; salary 62*l.*; 18*l.* in lieu of fees; 5*l.* for limewhiting the gaol; coals, candles, soap, and garden.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1825; salary 20*l.*

Surgeon.—Appointed 1836; salary 15*l.* for attendance and medicines.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the GAOL and HOUSE of CORRECTION for the Borough of BOSTON, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.													
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.				In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
..	..	..	..	..	..	9	7	8	4	28	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	1	9 included in the total.	2	..	..	116	12	116	12	113	11	3	1

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour or Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
2	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	4	2	4, including Females.		11	6	..	..	..	..	36	..	92	..	..	..	..	7	..	2	..	Cannot answer.	None.

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																								Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.						Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day-rooms.	Work-rooms.	Tread-wheel, Houses or Divisions upon the Tread-wheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.						
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.												
To this Prison. Other Prisons.	20 ..	5 ..	1 ..	.. ..	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.							Male.	Fem.								
	..	..	..	..	11	1	No Work done in the Sleeping Cells.				3	3	5	5	35, including Females.		..	1	..	7	7	..	2 No divisions upon the Tread-wheels.	..	1	..	..	1 Cold Bath.	4	6d.

STAMFORD.—Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

This borough has received a grant of quarter-sessions. It has also a jurisdiction for the trial of trespasses to the amount of 40*l.*, which has fallen into disuse. The prison is a plain elevation of free-stone standing at the back of the court-house. It consists of four stories divided into 16 cells, or rooms, each of which is 9 feet 2 inches high. The end rooms in each floor are all of the same dimensions, 11 feet 8 inches by 9 feet, and the centre rooms, necessarily reduced by having a passage taken from them, are 10 feet 4, by 8 feet 9 inches. The cells have all arched ceilings, except the attics, intended for debtors and sick, which are lathed and plastered. The windows, 1 to each room, are 3 feet 4 inches by 3 feet, sashed and glazed, and secured on the inside with cross bars of iron. Six of the sleeping rooms have fire-places. There are 3 airing yards, 2 in front for the males divided by a low wall, and 1 for females; the only access to which is from the yard occupied by the males, and through the centre of the building. Privies in each yard. There are no infirmaries.

Diet.—Fourpence a-day is allowed by the corporation for the subsistence of the prisoners; they are permitted to lay it out in whatever articles they please: beer not excepted.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, palliasse, 2 blankets, and rug.

Fuel.—A peck of coals to each day-room daily.

Clothing.—Clothing is not provided, except in cases of urgent necessity.

Cleanliness.—The sleeping rooms clean; the day-rooms but indifferently so. Soap and towels are provided, and clean linen once a-week.

Health.—Medical assistance is provided when required. Number of Sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—I lament to report that the spiritual wants of the prisoners are wholly unprovided for: no clergyman attends to perform Divine service on the Sabbath, nor on any other occasion. There are but one Bible, two Testaments, and a Prayer-book in the prison, and these were presented by the mayor. The keeper states, that "The clergymen of the neighbourhood used to perform Divine service within the prison, but were so insulted by the prisoners as to be compelled to decline it. They have not been supplied with books lately, those they had were completely destroyed; we take away at night those the mayor presented."

Labour.—A crank-wheel. It is placed in a room intended for solitary confinement. The labour is merely nominal. See the head *Discipline.*

Scale of Crank-Labour.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Cranks will employ at one time in separate Apartments.	The ordinary Velocity of the Cranks per Minute.	How the Labour is apportioned to the Number and Strength of the Prisoners employed.	The Daily Amount of Labour performed by each Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
The whole year.	Each prisoner works 3 hours a day, viz. 1½ hour in the morning, and 1½ hour in the afternoon.	Only one, but two can work together in the same apartment.	Thirty revolutions.	By regulating the pressure of a spring on an internal cylinder.	5,400 revolutions.	By an index	The infliction of punishment. It is probably also conducive to health.

Visits.—Visits to prisoners are made on a Saturday from 9 to 10, and from 1 to 2. They see their friends at the gate in the presence of an officer.

Offences and Punishments.—Fighting, mutinous conduct, and attempts at escape, punished by putting in irons and stoppage of food. Number of Punishments, see Table.

Irons.—4¼ lbs. No whipping.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The keeper of this prison holds also the situation of clerk to the magistrates, and the accounts of the two offices are mingled together in his books. Every item of prison expenditure, and also the fees due to the keeper as clerk to the magistrates, are neatly and minutely entered in a book, and laid before the magistrates weekly, and passed by them. In consequence of legal difficulties in which the borough has been involved, the payments are considerably in arrear. I recommend that the accounts of this prison should be kept distinct from those of clerk to the magistrates.

EXPENDITURE from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
57 2 6½	0 1 2	8 18 0	2 5 1½	12 5 0	. .	1 2 9	. .

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any.)	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Medicines and Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1 10 6	. .	25 11 0	. .	3 3 3	9 10 5½	. .	128 9 9½
Subsistence of Convicts in gaol from conviction to removal (not yet received from the Exchequer).		7 6 9½			Of this sum 7 19 0 is for medicines.	Salaries . .	113 14 8
		32 17 9½				Total . £	242 11 3

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Stamford. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Books.—Register, arranged under the following heads:—Name—age—when committed—charge—whether for trial or not—if tried, when—if convicted, sentence—when released—remarks.

Keeper's Journal, containing entries of offences and punishments.

Discipline.—On going through the prison I found one prisoner in double irons by order of the magistrates for an assault upon the turnkey; the day-rooms without tables or benches, they having been destroyed by the prisoners. The keeper's journal and the evidence of the officers afford ample testimony of the total want of order and subordination which pervades this establishment. The common offices of Divine worship are unperformed; neither order nor regularity are observed at work, or meals; the prisoners are permitted to indulge their fancies in the selection of articles of food, and their principal occupation appears to be acts of outrage, attempts at escape, and mutual corruption. Four prisoners escaped in February, 1836, and got clear of the building, but were taken a week afterwards.

Extract from Keeper's Journal.

"May 31st, 1836.——— ——— found attempting to make an aperture in the gaol wall for the purpose of escape: on being remonstrated with, and told he must be put in irons, he broke the windows of the day-room, and also of the working-room. Put in fetters, and placed him in solitary confinement."

The turnkey's evidence of his duties and the state of the prison is as follows:—"I come to the prison at 7 o'clock (winter), unlock the prisoners, let them down, give the coals for the fires, and brushes for the cleaning. Put one into the mill-house for an hour. They tell me what they want, and I go out and purchase the potatoes and meat they order, the keeper providing me the money every morning; they order what they please. At 10 o'clock put the prisoners on to work, each for an hour, after that the time is divided amongst them for the rest of the day; they continue to work until six or seven, and are not locked up until nine. The prisoners broke their table and stools in the day-rooms about three months since; they were not put into the cells or otherwise punished for doing so. It is a long time since there was any seat in the misdemeanants' room. I gave them the Chambers's Journal found in the prison; it belongs to ——— in the next yard. The keeper gave him leave to have it. They asked me to borrow it, and I did. They can, and do talk over the division wall. They can get over to one another; I have caught them over several times. I see the prisoners when they first come in; I do not search them. Two gentlemen came a fortnight last Friday to see the prison, gave ——— a sixpence, and threw a shilling into the yard; ——— picked it up. They had then a little small beer; they have it occasionally brought into the prison. They frequently make a noise and shouting. Sometimes they call out to each other before they are let down in the morning. They swear at one another, and use very foul language. The amount of labour depends upon the number we have in, there being only one at a time at the crank; the more prisoners, the less they have to do. Some of the young ones, I think, get worse here; we have occasionally boys, two or three at a time. There is a prisoner who has been three times since I have been here. I have been twice assaulted by the prisoners. In April last, a convicted felon was on the mill, and, behaving improperly, I ordered him into the dark cell; he refused to go; I had to struggle with him to get him there. He bit me severely in the cheek; was assaulted again on the 15th July by another prisoner now in double irons." The particulars are given in his information before the magistrates as follows:—

Information.

The Town or Borough of Stamford, in the County of Lincoln. } The Information of William Ham, of the said borough, labourer, taken upon oath, in the said borough, on Monday, the thirty-first day of July, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, before us whose names are hereunto subscribed, being Justices of our Lady the Queen, assigned to keep the peace in and for the town or borough aforesaid, and also to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors there committed:

Who saith that he is employed as overseer of the prisoners in the Gaol and House of Correction of the said borough, and was so employed on Saturday, the fifteenth day of July instant; that the prisoners committed to hard labour are worked at a labour machine in the said prison alternately; that in the morning of the said fifteenth day of July instant, about eleven o'clock, this deponent went into the day-room of the yard in which Charles Waterfield, William Barlow, George Graves, Thomas Baxter, and George Whyman were confined, to take the said Barlow in his turn to work, when he pretended that his dinner was ready, and hesitated to go to work, and appeared with some of the other prisoners to make a laugh at the application; that after a little delay the said Barlow went to the machine, and worked the time appointed, about an hour, and then this deponent went to the said Charles Waterfield, whose turn was next to Barlow's; that this deponent said to him, "Come, Waterfield," to which he answered that it was not his turn, and that he could not come yet; that Waterfield was then sitting by the fire, and, after waiting a short time, this deponent took hold of his collar and pulled him a little to go to work, upon which Waterfield said, "Don't tear my shirt;" that this deponent told him he did not want to tear his shirt, and left his hold, when, after waiting a short time longer, the said Waterfield got up, went to the cupboard of the room, and took therefrom a pair of heavy half boots (now produced) which he put on; that he then pulled off his coat, which he threw upon the top of the cupboard, and then the said Waterfield declared that this deponent was not going to do as he liked with him, and immediately flew at this deponent, put one of his arms round this deponent's neck and the other at his legs, and threw this deponent violently down upon the floor of the day-room; that thereupon the said Barlow, Bennett, Graves, Baxter, and Whyman went out of the room into the yard, and left this deponent and Waterfield on the ground; that on this deponent's falling down, Waterfield began to kick this deponent, and kicked him most violently upon his back and the back part of his head, by which this deponent was much hurt; and that the said Waterfield pulled from this deponent's pocket his staff or guard, and struck him with it violently on the head twice; that this deponent was so much hurt that he called out murder, and then Baxter came into the room, and asked Waterfield what he was doing, and said to him, "You'll kill him" (meaning this deponent); that afterwards the said Waterfield helped this deponent up, and assisted him to get out of the room into the Gaol yard, and he then threw this deponent's staff over the wall of the prison into the adjoining yard of Mr. Hunt; and this deponent saith, that in consequence of the injury inflicted upon this deponent by the said Waterfield he hath been under the care of the surgeon, and was unable to resume his employment for the space of eight days.

Taken and sworn before us,
Henry Weldon, Mayor,
Wm. Hunt.
J. H. Fysh.

his
Wm. × Ham.
mark.

The keeper states, "The prisoners communicate with each other over the division walls; they frequently get backwards and forwards over them; they have been punished for it, but it has not prevented them. The crank-machine was only intended for a prisoner in solitary confinement, but the magistrates, from not being able to find labour, thought it better that all should take their turns at it; the prisoners are very frequently noisy and disorderly; they are not checked by the refractory cells or stoppage of food. Men have been sentenced to solitary confinement, but it is nothing, they can talk to each other. The greatest number of prisoners that we have had has been 16. The prisoners are allowed 4*d.* a day to maintain themselves; they may have small beer as much as they like. The turnkey has sometimes 40 or 50 articles to purchase for them of a morning, and it takes him an hour daily to market for them."

The keeper's wife acts as matron. The female prisoners are employed in washing; being in the back part of the prison there is no possibility of inspecting them. As many as 7 females have been here at one time, but often a considerable period elapses without there being one; an additional officer is much wanted.

It is absolutely incumbent upon the authorities to take steps for the supply of religious consolation and instruction, the maintenance of order, and something like labour and discipline in this prison, or taking the alternative of contracting with the county for the prisoners under correction, and retaining the present gaol only for prisoners before trial. The attention of the mayor and town-council has been drawn to the wretched condition of this prison.

Keeper.—Age 52; appointed 1820; salary 70*l.*; resides in the prison; bailiff of the borough courts; clerk to the magistrates; his salary includes the services of his wife as matron.

Turnkey.—Age 42; appointed 1836; labourer; does not reside in prison; does not read nor write; wages 14 shillings a week.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the BOROUGH GAOL and HOUSE of CORRECTION at STAMFORD, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Coutract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.						In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
..	..	..	..	..	..	24	4	24	4	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	9	6	..	..	42	4	51	10	49	10	2	..

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour or Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
..	..	1	..	7	..	1	..	7	..	8	..	$8\frac{200}{365}$	$2\frac{233}{365}$	13	2	..	..	..	..	25	4	32	..	3	18	18	15	..	5	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																							Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three Times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.						Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day-rooms.	Woork-rooms.	Tread-wheel, Houses or Divisions upon the Tread-wheel.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.				
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.											
To this Prison	2	4	3	..																									
Other Prisons	..	..	..	..																									
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.							Male.	Fem.							
	2	4	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	16	2	..	2	..	3	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4*d*.

GRANTHAM.—Borough Gaol.

Since the passing of the Municipal Act, the ancient soke of Grantham, formerly included within the borough jurisdiction, has merged into that of the county; but this important curtailment of its extent is, I am informed, to be compensated for in the proposed Boundary Bill, by including Little Gonersby and Spital Gate, adjoining the town, and containing a population of about 3,500 souls. The borough has a separate grant of quarter-sessions. The prison stands at the back of the town-hall. It consists of four day-rooms and 12 cells upon a ground plan, with four airing yards. The following are the dimensions:—

Cells, 8 ft. by 6 ft. 10 in.
Airing yards, 52 ft. by 33 ft.

The cells are arched, and the floors are of Yorkshire paving. The windows from the turnkey's house, look conveniently into each yard for the purpose of inspection. There are small patches of garden ground in the centre of the yards. The prison, where detached from other buildings, is inclosed by a boundary wall, with courses of loose bricks on the top. There is no pump, nor the means of procuring water within the walls; the prisoners have to fetch it from a well on the keeper's premises.

Bedding.—Three rugs and straw; the latter changed two or three times during the year.

Clothing.—None.

Fuel.—In moderate weather, 14 lbs. of coals daily; when severe, 21 lbs.

Cleanliness.—The prison and prisoners clean; they wash their own linen, and are allowed each ¼ lb. of soap weekly.

Diet.—The prisoners provide themselves; for this purpose the corporation allow them 6*d.* a-day before trial, and 4*d.* when convicted. They cook their victuals in the day-rooms.

Health.—The surgeon attends when required, and makes his charge for medicines and attendance. He keeps no book.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—Bibles and prayer-books are provided for the prisoners, but whether able to read them, or not, appears to be a matter of no concern. Divine worship is never celebrated here. One prisoner, for an attempt at an infamous offence, is undergoing an imprisonment of two years.

Offences and Punishments.—Refractory prisoners and disorderlies are occasionally subjected to a most improper and illegal punishment, called "the bull ring," handcuffing them to a ring fixed in the wall. One of the turnkeys says that, "There were two gipsies here very refractory; they were put the first night to the bull ring. The other punishment is confinement in a dark cell: whipping has never been resorted to."

Visits.—Visits and letters at the discretion of the keeper.

Labour.—There is a small tread-wheel, which is overlooked by the wife of one of the turnkeys from a window. The prisoners are a quarter of an hour on and off; at every quarter she strikes a bell to give them notice; they then come down and walk about the yard, talking together until their next turn. Females are occasionally put on the wheel.

Scale of Tread-Mill Labour.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
12	8	5	6 inches.	Twice round and a half.	2	15,016	..	600	By the ringing of a bell every quarter of an hour.	None.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The system of accounts appears to be very imperfect. The expenditure of the prison comprises also that of the town-hall. The bills are sent in quarterly to the town treasurer. The keeper is allowed £12 a-year to furnish coals for the gaol, town-hall, and offices. The turnkey of the house of correction provides coals for that part of the prison, and sends in his bill to the town-council.

Expenditure from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
34 7 10	0 11 2	0 16 2	5 8 0	9 1 6	1 0 0	..	..

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract, (if any.)	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
7 10 0	1 10 0	7 0 6	..	..	8 14 0	..	
						Salaries . .	45 0 0
						Total . £	120 19 2

II.
Northern and Eastern District.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Grantham. Borough Gaol.

Discipline.—Upon going through this prison early in the morning, I found, in one day-room, the convicted prisoners regaling themselves with a large breakfast of meat, vegetables, and tea. In the cell occupied by a prisoner convicted of an attempt at an unnatural offence, were several pipes and tobacco, various books, and tailoring work. It was quite evident that this prisoner was indulged to a great extent by the officers. The turnkey, upon my requesting an explanation, said, that the surgeon had ordered him tobacco; upon applying to the surgeon, this appeared not to be true. Upon inquiring of the keeper of what offence this prisoner had been convicted, who was undergoing a sentence of two years' imprisonment, he could not tell, and referred to the turnkey. An old register was at last produced, going back as far as 1817, by which it appeared that he had been sentenced at the October sessions, 1836, for an assault upon a boy, with intent to commit an unnatural offence. The old register was arranged under the following heads: Number—name—when committed—by whom—to what place—for what offence—where, and how, disposed of—observations. The following loose method has been substituted:—"Committed the 4th of September, by Joseph Wyles, Esq., for one month's imprisonment and hard labour, in default of payment of a fine of 1*l.* for assaulting Thomas Howell, a watchman, and several others." The discipline of the prison, and the degree of instruction of the prisoners, is wholly neglected to be taken. The officers state,—"The prisoners care nothing for the tread-wheel in the prison: sometimes they get the week's provisions all at once. They like the prison a great deal better than the house of correction at Falkingham. They get better food here than out." The turnkeys are employed in the borough police, and, during their frequent absence while patrolling the town, the important object of inspection over the prisoners is unattended to. The labour of the tread-wheel, from this cause, is a mere farce. The indispensable necessity for providing for the moral and religious instruction of the prisoners has been intimated to the municipal authorities. I also recommend the substitution of a precise diet, in lieu of the money allowance; the keeping of a regular register of the prisoners, and an improved system of accounts; that while the men are on the wheel they should be under the constant inspection of a male officer; and that the officers of the House of Correction should be enjoined to be more vigilant in the execution of their duties.

Attached to the prison is a vagrant house, under charge of the turnkey of the House of Correction. He receives 3*d.* a head for feeding and attending to them. It consists of two sleeping rooms, and a yard for males and females. The vagrants are provided with a night's lodging, and receive a penny loaf in the evening, and another in the morning, when they are conducted beyond the limits of the borough.

Keeper.—Aged 52; appointed 1836; farmer, salary £52, resides in the prison.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1836; no salary; sends in his bill for medicine and attendance.

Turnkey to the Gaol.—Age 44; pensioner Royal Artillery; appointed 1836; wages 14*s.* a week; resides in prison.

Turnkey to the House of Correction.—Age 55; pensioner 58th regiment; wages 14*s.* a week; resides in prison.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the BOROUGH GAOL and HOUSE of CORRECTION, at GRANTHAM, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the Different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanours.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.		In Custody at the commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.															
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	12	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	21	2	21	2	..	..

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Death.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being Hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	2	1	3	..	8	1	..	..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.							Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Instruction, &c. &c. &c.																						Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.		Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.										Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day-rooms.	Work-Rooms.	Tread-wheel Houses, or Divisions upon the Tread-wheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	
							Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.							Male.	Fem.			
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
To this Prison	..	..	..	..																										
Other Prisons	..	..	..	..																										
1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	30	..	..	2	..	4	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	4	4*d.*

N.

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Grimsby. Borough Gaol.

GRIMSBY BOROUGH GAOL.

This prison is chiefly used for debtors from the Borough Court, and those in execution from a jurisdiction for the recovery of small debts, extending over 16 parishes. It adjoins the town-hall, and its accommodation for prisoners is of the humblest description. It contains one cell for criminals on the ground floor, 14 ft. by 12 ft. and 6 ft. in height. A chain is fixed in the floor, to which violent prisoners are ironed. The debtors' room is ascended to by a ladder staircase, through a hatch which is shut down at night. It is 12 ft. by 8 ft., and 7 ft. 3 in. high; ceiling, lath and plaster. It is furnished with wooden bedsteads, a straw palliasse, two blankets, and rug to each. As many as seven debtors have been confined together in this room. There is a small airing-yard common to all the prisoners. The room for females can only be reached by passing through the town-hall: it is 12 ft. by 5 ft. 10 in., 7 ft. 2 in. high, with fire-place, and boarded floor. The whole building is very insecure for the retention of prisoners, and liable to accidents from fire. The borough having no grant of quarter-sessions, prisoners remain here only while under examination. The accommodation for the debtors is very indifferent. The keeper states, "One debtor was here for 200 days. There were two females here at one time, and while they took the air, the other prisoners were locked up in their rooms." The prisoners are subsisted at the rate of 5*d.* per day; they receive for this four penny rolls daily, and a pound of meat once a week. Coals are provided in winter.

Keeper aged 52; appointed 1822; salary, 15*l.*; mace-bearer to the corporation, with a fee of 13*s.* 4*d.* upon the arrest of each prisoner under process from the Borough Court; resides on the premises.

RETURN from the BOROUGH GAOL of GREAT GRIMSBY.

1837.

1836. Year ending Michaelmas, 1836.	
Number of Prisoners for Trial, or tried at Sessions in the course of the Year	Debtors in the course of the Year: In execution, 19 M.
Number of Prisoners before Trial . . 1 M. Convicted, Sessions October, 1835.	

1837. Year ending Michaelmas, 1837.				
Debtors in the course of the Year:	M.	F.	Number of Prisoners confined in this Prison in the course of the Year:	M.	F.
In execution.	13	1	Committed for re-examination .	39	2

YORKSHIRE.—EAST RIDING.

BEVERLEY.—HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

East Riding House of Correction. Beverley.

This prison is situate at a short distance from the town of Beverley, on the side of the public road. It is connected with the sessions-house, and surrounded by a boundary wall, with several courses of loose bricks on the top. The enclosure is an oblong. The prison, in its original form, consisted of the keeper's house and two wings, with chapel and offices in the rear. After the passing of the Gaol Acts it was enlarged by the addition of three wings, with airing-yards between each, and a central building containing apartments for the turnkeys. The older portions of the buildings are appropriated to the females and the sick, the later erections to the males. Since the introduction of the silence system, the day-rooms and workshops have been converted into sleeping cells, and two spacious rooms erected in the airing-yards, where the prisoners take their meals. The sleeping cells have stone floors, iron doors, and arched roofs. The yards are enclosed front and rear with open iron railings; they are paved, water is laid on, and there are privies in each. The cells for solitary confinement adjoin the female wards. They consist of four cells, two light and two dark, with two day-rooms, and two airing-yards: the latter made use of when solitary confinement is inflicted for any period. The tread-wheels are placed in a kind of arcade under the chapel, and enclosed in front with iron railings: the divisions for males and females are parted by a wall. The chapel is divided into ten compartments. The matron's apartments adjoin the chapel. The drainage and ventilation of the buildings perfect.

Dimensions.

Old Prison, Sleeping Cells.—8 ft. 1 in., by 10 ft. 3 in.
New Cells, Ground Floor.—9 ft. 9 in., by 4 ft.
„ Upper Floor.—9 ft., by 6 ft.
„ Angle do. —9 ft., by 7 ft.
Meal Rooms.—32 ft., by 8 ft.
Refractory Cells.—9 ft., by 6 ft.

Diet.

	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday. . . .	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.	One quart of stew of heads and bones, &c., with half a pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.	Same as breakfast.
Monday . . .	Same	One quart of oatmeal pottage, and half a pound of bread.	Same.
Tuesday . . .	Same	Same as Sunday.	Same.
Wednesday . .	Same	Same as Monday.	Same.
Thursday . . .	Same	Five ounces of beef, without bone, after boiling, one pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.	Same.
Friday	Same	One quart of broth, from beef of yesterday, &c., half a pound of bread, with leeks or onions, and a quarter of an ounce of oatmeal for each prisoner.	Same.
Saturday . . .	Same	Same as Monday.	Same.

The Diet Table for Prisoners employed at the Tread-mill.

	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday. . . .	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.	One quart of stew of heads and bones, with half a pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.	Same as breakfast.
Monday	Same	Same as Sunday.	Same.
Tuesday . . .	Same	Same as Monday.	Same.
Wednesday . .	Same	Five ounces of beef, without bone, after boiling, one pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.	Same.
Thursday . . .	Same	Three-fourths of a quart of broth, from beef of yesterday, &c. half a pound of bread, with suitable vegetables, and six ounces of flour made into a dumpling.	Same.
Friday	Same	Same as Wednesday.	Same.
Saturday . . .	Same	Same as Thursday.	Same.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, palliasse, two blankets, two rugs.

Clothing.—The prisoners are only provided with clothing when actually requiring it, except body linen, which is changed weekly. Felon's dress a particoloured suit of yellow and grey. Misdemeanant's, brown ditto: wooden clogs. Women, dress of blue calico.

Cleanliness.—The prison and persons of the prisoners clean.

Health.—The regular attendance of the surgeon is twice a week, when he goes through the prison and examines the prisoners, and, also, whenever required in cases of sickness. He does not inspect the prisoners before they are classed, nor attend corporal punishments. The ordinary diseases are itch, gonorrhœa, and syphilis, among the vagrants; inflammatory fevers in the summer; catarrhs, diarrhœa, and dysentery, in the winter. The surgeon states: "There is a tendency in the prison to looseness of bowels, which sometimes extends to dysentery; I ascribe it to the cold. There is much less of it since the partitions were placed on the wheel. The influenza was almost universal out of the prison, but was scarcely noticeable within. The prisoners are not placed in a reception cell until I have examined them. There have been a few cases where prisoners have been put on the wheel, where it would have been better not, and I have ordered them off. The female prisoners are generally hardy young women, used to labour in the fields. The matron mentions to me any complaint they may have as likely to affect their labour, and I take them off if necessary. Generally speaking, I observe no bad consequences resulting from their being placed on the tread-wheel. I have seen prisoners in solitary confinement for the space of a week, with no observable effect. One female refused to labour, and was placed in solitary confinement for about three weeks; she came out quite fresh, and improved in health, I paid vigilant attention to her; she was certainly better, apparently enjoying great satisfaction from breaking down the discipline by persisting in refusing to work. The prison is healthy, particularly during the last two years, which I ascribe to the good effects of the pens on the tread-wheel; the number of violent diseases has been greatly diminished." The surgeon's journal is arranged under the following heads:—Date.—Name.—Disease.—Cured.—Sundries.—Number of sick. See Table.

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
East Riding House of Correction. Beverley.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain reads prayers and preaches a sermon on Sunday morning; in the afternoon reads prayers and catechizes the young prisoners. He attends three days during the week, an hour each time, to see the prisoners, and converse with them; and also visits the sick if any. The officers attend Divine service. He administers the Sacrament twice a-year. The maximum of the prisoners who communicate has been six, the minimum two. There is a paid schoolmaster who attends two hours daily in the winter, and one in the summer, instructing the prisoners in reading and writing, the latter through the medium of slates. The chaplain states: "When I come here in the day-time I send for such prisoners as I select; they are taken from the wheel, and I read portions of Scripture with those who can, and to those who cannot read, and hear them the catechism. The adults learn the catechism as well as the boys. It is my decided opinion that the catechismal or colloquial mode of instruction is better suited to prisoners than any other; I am certain of it, as the result of 17 years experience. Has the superintendance of the books and tracts. The Penny and Saturday Magazines were formerly circulated among the prisoners, but withdrawn at the suggestion of the keeper. The prisoners are very anxious for books. There is no instruction for the females beyond the chaplain occasionally reading to them. I keep no private character book; I generally inquire into the parentage, habits of life, offences, &c., of the prisoners when we are together, and reason with them in a moral and religious point of view: there seems to be this at the bottom of all, 'Except you can do something for us when out, we must come into places like this.' The vagrants are the most irreclaimable; we have very few juvenile prisoners. The state of education is low in the Riding; many of them have not been in the habit of attending Divine worship, and you have to inculcate the principles." The chaplain's journal contains entries of his visits and duties performed in the prison.

Labour.—The treadwheel for males and females. The labour of the women on the wheels is superintended by a male turnkey, which I consider ought not to be the case. The females not sentenced to hard labour are employed in cooking the provisions, washing and mending the clothing. The untried are, if they desire, employed in breaking the cliff stone for the mill, and are paid 3*d.* a day as earnings. Some of the whiting is air-dried, and some stoved. If stoved it is about eight or nine days drying, and the fire has to be kept in during this time. A prisoner, a convicted felon, who acts as sweeper, attends to the stove, and is locked up in the kiln during the night. The labour of throwing the whiting in a wet state from the pits, is described as harder work than the mill.

SCALE OF TREAD-MILL LABOUR.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its power.
The whole 12 months.	In Summer the number of hours is 9½ per day, in Winter 8½.	40	7½ Inches.	48 steps per minute.	All the Prisoners are employed at the same time: they work half an hour and rest a quarter alternately.	The labour of the Prisoners is not regulated by the number of hours they work per diem, but by the number of revolutions of the wheel, which is 12,000 feet in ascent per diem for males, and 10,000 for females.	800	For males 12,000 feet in ascent per diem, for females 10,000 feet.	By a Dial Register attached to the mill.	The manufacture of whiting.

Offences and Punishments.—The ordinary offences are infractions of silence, punished by the stoppage of food and close confinement. Whipping is inflicted by one of the turnkeys. Number of punishments, see Table.

Scourge.—Handle 22 inches long, nine lashes of large whipcord, seven knots in each. Number of punishments, see Table.

Visits.—Convicted prisoners are not allowed either to receive visits or letters, except in cases of dangerous illness, to be certified by the surgeon, and by order of a visiting magistrate. Prisoners before trial, between nine and four on Thursdays, every week.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The bread, beef, and oatmeal, are supplied by contracts, made quarterly. The keeper gives the orders. The bills are sent in and paid by him every month. He enters them in his books, lays them with the receipts before the magistrates, who, after examination, give a check for their amount on the treasurer. Coals, and all other necessaries, are purchased by the keeper in the same manner. The bills for repairs are the only exceptions; they are examined by the keeper, and handed over to the sessions.

EXPENDITURE from Michaelmas 1836, to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing, and Straw.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.		
226 7 8	1 7 6	20 5 10½	Bedding included in the previous column and no furniture.	85 5 2¼	20 16 5	No charge.	Before trial 3*d.* per day, Convicted Misdemeanors 1½*d.* per day.

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any).	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
		£. s. d.			£. s. d.		£. s. d.
. .	None.	13 7 6	None.	None.	1 4 0	None.	368 13 1¾
					Salaries.....		731 18 6
							1100 11 7¾
					Deduct Earnings ...		386 14 1
						Total...£	713 17 6¾

The annexed Return, comprising the principal details of the government of this prison for nine years, shows also the profit of the whiting manufacture, and the decrease of prisoners since 1835, &c.

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

East Riding House of Correction. Beverley.

A RETURN of the Number of Prisoners confined in the East Riding House of Correction for the last Nine Years, showing the Daily Average, the Total Cost of Diet, the Average Weekly Cost of Diet, the Total Cost of Clothing, the Net Amount of Earnings, and the Amount received for the maintenance of the Borough Prisoners by the East Riding Treasurer.

	Number of Prisoners received in the Year.	Average Number confined daily in the Year.	Total cost of Diet in the Year.	Weekly cost of each Prisoner maintained by the Riding in the Year.	Total cost of Clothing and Bedding in the Year.	Net Amount of Prisoners' Earnings in the Year.	Amount received for the maintenance of the Borough Prisoners in the Year.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
1829	492	92¼	689 1 0½	0 2 10½	86 2 0	431 11 7	98 19 5
1830	489	80¼	490 14 0	0 2 5	52 15 2	446 3 4	76 11 9
1831	366	62¼	389 18 7	0 2 5	35 15 0	508 0 7	52 5 9
1832	459	67¼	436 18 9	0 2 6	39 12 9	470 4 0	82 13 3
1833	470	85	518 17 0	0 2 4	42 3 4	487 10 0	61 4 2
1834	510	88¼	474 7 6	0 2 1	33 10 3	344 10 10	30 12 5
*1835	350	65	313 14 6	0 1 10½	40 16 8	626 19 10	63 10 0
1836	270	46	229 6 7	0 1 11	16 6 3	431 9 5	51 3 2
1837	193	38·3	242 16 11¾	0 2 4¾	30 11 1½	386 14 1	

* Commencement of the Silent System.

Books.—Bill book, containing entries of the heads of all bills, and the amount of monthly disbursements, signed by a visiting magistrate. The officers are paid the salaries monthly, with the exception of the surgeon and chaplain, who draw theirs through the treasurer.

Day-Book.—Containing entries of sales of whiting.

Ledger.—The whiting is chiefly disposed of to wholesale dealers in Hull, and some delay takes place in settling the accounts. The price at which the best quality is sold, termed Paris White, is 34*s.* a ton, inferior quality 21*s.*

Labour Book.—Containing acccount of labour performed by untried prisoners, and those not sentenced to hard labour.

Fee Book.—Account of fees. Two shillings are allowed to the keeper upon the discharge of every prisoner.

Register.—Arranged under the heads of, Where convicted—time confined.

Punishment Book.—Date—name—offence—by whom reported.

Visiting Magistrates Book.

General Discipline.—The silence discipline is enforced; two prisoners only are employed as wardsmen, who receive extra allowance of provisions. The principal turnkey describes the daily routine of duties of follows:—The bell is rung at half past six, a quarter of an hour afterwards the prisoners are unlocked and set to labour. They work till a quarter past seven. The mill then stops a quarter of an hour for rest, and the men wash. Then to the mill again until breakfast at eight. After breakfast to chapel, and from thence to labour until twelve. They exercise in file round the yards for a quarter of an hour and then dine. A quarter before one they resume their labour, and remain at it till five. Exercise again for a quarter of an hour and then to supper, for which half an hour is allowed, and they are then locked up for

night. On Sundays the bell is rung a little before half past seven, when they are unlocked, every man brings his foul linen in his hand, a clean shirt having been given to him the night before. They walk in file round the yard, and when the whole are assembled they fall into line, the linen is then examined to see that it is not torn, and their hands and feet inspected. They breakfast at eight; then exercise till chapel at ten, which occupies them till half past eleven; exercise again till 12; sit in the victualling-room till one; exercise and sit in the rooms alternate hours until four, then to chapel, afterwards to supper, and then are locked up. The remarkable decrease in the number of prisoners, although not entirely to be attributed to the introduction of the silent system, has no doubt been influenced by it. The evidence of the officers is most conclusive as to its value. The chaplain says, "I am decidedly of opinion since the silent system has been introduced in this prison it has been most favourable to the morals and general welfare of the prisoners. I form that opinion from the fact of the permanent decrease of the prisoners since its first enforcement, and this is quite independent of other causes. The vagrants hate it, the prisoners dislike it, and those who can be acted upon at all are so by it. The daily duties of the prison are carried on with a wonderful increase of facility." The keeper says, "The introduction of the system has been no less beneficial to the prisoners than to the prison, from the superior order and regularity of which it has been the cause. The rule prohibiting convicted prisoners from having intercourse with their friends, has also, I think, been of great effect." The principal turnkey says, "I think the prison is greatly improved, it is not the same place. I do not think if they were kept in separate cells they could be more apart; I have not caught one talking for a length of time at night. We have had several idiots on the vagrants' side, whom it has been very difficult to keep silent." The turnkey and millwatch says, "The men on the wheel are effectually prevented from talking to each other. The silent system has put an end to all noise and plague." In connexion with this evidence I annex tables of committals and recommittals, and the number of prisoners in the house of correction on certain days during a period of several years.

A Table showing the Number of Prisoners committed to the House of Correction at Beverley, and the per Centage recommitted during the following Years.

Years. From Oct. 1st to Sept. 30th, inclusive.	Number Committed.	Number Recommitted.	Per Cent.
1833	470	61	12·9
1834	515	78	15·18
*1835	361	77	21·3
1836	270	57	21·1
1837	193	36	13·4

* The Silent System introduced into this prison October, 1835.

The Number of Prisoners in Custody in the Beverley House of Correction on the 1st October, during the Years

1830.		1831.		1832.		1833.		1834.		*1835.		1836.		1837.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
52	10	33	11	63	14	65	18	54	10	54	3	44	7	30	10

* The Silent System introduced into this prison October 1835.

I consider the payment to the keeper of a portion of the earnings of the prison is objectionable; moreover the earnings of the whiting manufactory are not ascertained, as the interest for and wear of machinery, the amount of wages paid to the untried, and the fuel used at the stove, are not taken into calculation. The fee of 2*s.* a-head on each prisoner (with the payment of earnings), I also recommend to be discontinued, and in their place a commensurate salary to be paid to the keeper.

I am of opinion that the keeper should not be permitted to avail himself of the services of the female prisoners in his house, and likewise that the women when on the wheel should always be under the charge of a female superintendent. All prisoners should be examined by the surgeon previously to their being classed. I think the labour of the schoolmaster might be very beneficially extended, so as to comprise the whole of the prisoners.

Officers.

Keeper.—Aged 60, salary 200*l.* One-fourth of prisoners' earnings, two shillings for each discharged prisoner. Coals, candles, and garden outside the prison.

Matron.—Aged 51, appointed 1823. Salary 30*l.*, coals and washing. Resides in prison.

Turnkey.—Aged 42, appointed 1809. Salary 60*l.* Hair-cutting and shaving prisoners 3*l.* 3*s.* Coals. Resides in prison. Married. Read and write.

Turnkey.—Aged 42. Appointed 1832. Salary 54*l.* 12*s.* Coals. Married. Resides in prison. Read and write.

Night Watch.—Aged 33. Appointed 1827. Salary 54*l.* 12*s.* Married. Does not reside in prison. Read and write.

Schoolmaster.—Appointed 1836. Salary 30*l.*

Chaplain.—Appointed 1820. Salary 100*l.* Assistant curate of Beverley Minster, master in the grammar-school. Resides in Beverley.

Chapel Clerk.—Salary 6*l.*

Surgeon.—Salary 80*l.* for medicine and attendance.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the HOUSE of CORRECTION for the EAST RIDING, at BEVERLEY, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.								Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the Commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
..	..	..	..	..	..	30	9	5	2	52	11	..	..	19	..	2	..	54	9	29	10	..	..	164	31	193	41	142	26	20	5

State of Instruction, comprising the total Number of Prisoners in the course of the Year. — Can neither read nor Write. Males, 45; Females, 13. | Can Read only. Males, 1. | Can Read or Write, or both imperfectly. Males, 106; Females, 18. | Can Read and Write well. Males, 10. — Total . Males, 162; Females, 31.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment not being hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
..	..	7	1	2	..	10	4	8	2	29	10	39	7	43	10	..	..	1	..	158	17	20	..	..	39	105	58	10	2	..	..	..

Number of Prisoners who have been Committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																										Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.										Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day Rooms.	Work Rooms.	Treadwheel, Houses, or Divisions upon the Treadwheels.	Receiving Rooms.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.				
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.							Male.	Fem.					
To this Prison	19	9	1	3																												
Other Prisons	..	..	..	..																												
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.																			
	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	82	15	..	..	82	15	2	2	..	14	8	8	40	1	9	1	2	..	14	About $3\frac{3}{4}d.$			

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Report on Separate Prisons.
Kingston upon Hull. Town and County Gaol and House of Correction.

KINGSTON UPON HULL.—TOWN AND COUNTY GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

This prison was erected in 1829, and stands in a fine open space close to this populous and important town. It is begirt with two boundary walls, and between these barriers is a considerable plot of garden ground in the possession of the keeper. The entrance is through a double gateway with lodges on each side, occupied by three of the officers and their families. The interior comprises a central building with five radiating wings. Three of these wings are three stories in height, and are connected with the common centre by iron bridges, the other two have only two floors. The central building contains the prisoners' kitchen and laundry, keeper's apartments, and chapel. It has five rooms on a floor, and is planned so as to command a view of the yards from the several windows. The chapel is of a decagonal form, and is lighted from the roof, which is supported by 10 iron pillars. It is divided into 10 compartments, each boarded to the height of four feet in front, and so high as materially to impede the officer's inspection. Above the boarding is open iron railing. The entry to each pen is from the back. The pulpit is placed in the centre. The debtors sit inconveniently behind the keeper, and out of his or the minister's sight. The kitchen for the preparation of prisoners' food, and laundry, are in the basement of the keeper's house, and great inconvenience results from their want of ventilation, and exposed situation, from the facilities it affords to the females of communicating with the males while engaged in cooking and washing. The airing-yards are paved, and inclosed with open iron railing; water is supplied to each, and fixed leaden basins are provided for washing. For the convenience of the watchmen employed during the night under the silence system, and to give readier and undetected access to each of the wings, a covered passage of strong iron palisades has been constructed outside the ranges and extremities of the airing-yards, and between them and the keeper's house. This passage is kept locked after the watch is set, while the doors of the ranges are left open. The matron's apartments adjoin the female wards. The ventilation and drainage of the prison are perfect; a sluice from the Humber can be turned through the sewers for cleansing them at high water.

Dimensions, &c.

Prisoners.	Old Cells.	New Cells.	Refractory and Dark.
Criminals	46	51	7
Debtors	24	—	—

Old cells.—11 ft. by 7 ft., 9 ft. 9 in. high.
New cells.—8 ft. by 5 ft. 5 in., 10 ft. 3 in. high.
Debtors.—12 ft. by 9 ft., 9 ft. 8 in. high.

The new cells have been obtained by the conversion of the day-rooms, no longer required under the Silence System.

GENERAL DIET FOR PRISONERS.

	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.	One quart of stew of heads and bones, &c., with half a pound of potatoes.	Same as breakfast.
Monday	Same.	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.	Same.
Tuesday	Same	Same as Sunday.	Same.
Wednesday	Same	Same as Monday.	Same.
Thursday	Same	Five ounces of beef without bone, after boiling, one pound of potatoes.	Same.
Friday	Same	One quart of broth from beef of yesterday, and half a pound of bread, with leeks or onions, and a quarter of an ounce of oatmeal for each prisoner.	Same.
Saturday	Same	Same as Monday.	Same.

To those prisoners who work, the addition of half a pound of bread to dinner on Tuesday, and six ounces of flour made into a dumpling, to dinner on Friday,

DIET FOR PRISONERS EMPLOYED AT THE TREAD-MILL.

	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.	One quart of stew of heads and bones, with half a pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.	Same as breakfast.
Monday	Same	Same as Sunday	Same.
Tuesday	Same	Same as Monday	Same.
Wednesday	Same	Five ounces of beef without bone, after boiling, one pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.	Same.
Thursday	Same	Three-fourths of a quart of broth, from beef of yesterday, half a pound of bread, with suitable vegetables, and six ounces of flour made into a dumpling.	Same.
Friday	Same	Same as Wednesday	Same.
Saturday	Same	Same as Thursday	Same.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, palliasse, two rugs, and two blankets.

Clothing.—The felons are clothed in a drab jacket and breeches of woollen. The prisoners in general are only allowed shoes and clothing when absolutely necessary.

Cleanliness.—The interior of the prison clean.

Health.—The surgeon attends regularly twice a-week and sees all the prisoners, and in cases of sickness daily. Is present at corporal punishments. He does not examine the prisoners previously to their being classed. Gonorrhœa, syphilis, and eruptive diseases are the most prevalent. Occasionally low fevers, but not frequently. The prison is very healthy. No case of typhus for three years. The surgeon in evidence states, "I have frequently had to relieve females from the wheel, there are very few who can undergo such labour. In a medical point of view I do not consider the wheel well adapted for women; it is too laborious, and not of that kind which a female bears most easily from the particular formation of the body: women after child-birth are very likely to be unfit for it. I have frequently to take them off in consequence of the exposed state of the yard in winter. I consider that the tread-wheel is but little suited to the sex who inhabit large towns; it may be to agricultural labourers, stout, hale women. I have been obliged to order solitary confinement to be relaxed during periods of extreme cold. The infirmaries are not altogether well situated, and at times we are in want of room. I have on one occasion known the itch communicated in the prison." The surgeon's journal contains orders for extra diet, relaxation of labour, and entries of cases of sickness. Number of Sick, see Table.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs two services, with one sermon on the Sabbath. After evening service on Sunday he catechises the boys. The keeper reads prayers, selected from the Liturgy, to the assembled prisoners daily. The chaplain visits the prisoners three days during the week, and also sees the sick and those in solitary confinement. Administers the sacrament four times during the year; the average number of communicants for the period are from 14 to 16. All the officers of the prison attend chapel. The debtors do not regularly; the chaplain says, "I have been disturbed by noise from the debtors, particularly when I last administered the sacrament. The debtors make signs to the female prisoners in the chapel, to whom they sit opposite; I have occasionally checked them from the pulpit. The time I spend in the prison on three days in the week is about one hour and a half on each occasion. The prisoners are supplied with books and tracts, there is a Testament in each cell. There is no regular schoolmaster, I select a prisoner for this office, and divide the pupils into classes, according to their abilities. I visit the school occasionally and examine the progress made. The prisoners manifest a desire to learn, many with a wish to benefit themselves, and others to evade the discipline. Sometimes we have a number of boys; those who are brought up in dishonest habits I am certain it is an impossibility to reclaim; they behave very well, are attentive to their reading, make considerable progress, and come in again a very short time after they are discharged. The females are not instructed, except occasionally by the matron. There seems very little chance of the reformation of prostitutes: one of this class gave me every hope of permanent amendment; she partook of the sacrament, and after leaving the prison married a man who was in the prison at the same time with her; but she remained with him but a trifling period, and then resumed her old course of life. I should think that the intimacy must have commenced in the prison, as they had the opportunity from his being employed about it. They were both communicants at the Lord's table. The state of the prison is most wonderfully improved by the introduction of the silence system; it cannot be said to be the same place. The prisoners were rolling all day about the yards, and were very unruly in the chapel. Prisoners under sentence of solitary confinement attend Divine service, with the exception of the children sent by permission of their parents, and those confined for breaches of discipline in the refractory cells. Soldiers seem to endure solitary confinement better than others." The chaplain's journal contains entries of visits and duty performed in the prison-school. After the usual time of locking up, such adults as desire it, and all the boys, are instructed in reading, under the master (a prisoner) for one hour, in the room where they eat their meals. This assemblage of prisoners is left uncontrolled by the presence of any officer, an impropriety in itself, but demanding still more marked animadversion after inquiry into the character of the schoolmaster, who most certainly was one of the last persons who ought to have been selected. In an establishment of this magnitude, I can scarcely conceive any hesitation at the appointment of a paid officer as schoolmaster. A register of the prisoners under tuition is kept and arranged under the following heads: Date of entering school—name—age—read or not—what progress made—whether catechised or repeated Scripture before the chaplain.

Classification.—The classification of the Gaol Act has been superseded by the introduction of the silence system of discipline.

Labour.—The male prisoners are employed on the tread-wheel, manufacturing whiting, breaking stone, picking oakum, and cleaning the prison. The females, on the wheel, repairing clothes, washing, cooking, and picking oakum.

Each prisoner at labour is credited 1*d.* a day, which is paid on discharge. The application of the tread-wheel to the crushing of cliff stone and the making of whiting, if conducted prudently as at the House of Correction for the East Riding, would, I have no doubt, be very profitable; but from no regular debtor and creditor account being kept in this prison, it is impossible to ascertain with any exactness the real value of the business thus carried on. The introduction of this manufacture as labour for prisoners is due to Mr. Shepherd, the late keeper of the neighbouring House of Correction at Beverley. It possesses a most valuable recommendation, that the prisoners cannot injure the work or material, and it returns a considerable profit. The limestone used is of a peculiar quality and whiteness, and

is procured from Queen's Gate, in the East Riding, and costs from 2*s.* to 3*s.* a ton when delivered at the prison. Whiting is much employed in the manufacture of calico, and large quantities are also exported; and the process of making it is thus carried on: the limestone is brought into the prison in lumps of 5 or 6 lbs. each, or larger, and the prisoners are employed in breaking it with hammers into pieces of a smaller size, to render it fit for the action of the stones, without deranging the machinery of the mill. After the limestone has been broken sufficiently small, it is thrown as required into a vat, in which the millstone works upon its edge. The tread-wheel machinery is applied to turn the stone, and also to a pump which supplies the vat with a graduated quantity of water. The limestone, by the action of the mill, is ground into a pulp, which, saturated with water, is continually running from the vat by a trough into bricked reservoirs or pits, where it is suffered to rest, the heavier sediment at the bottom being the grosser particles, and the lighter at the top, the latter forming the more valuable description of whiting. The water on the surface of the pit is drained off, and the whiting, when taken out, is formed into lumps of about 14 lbs., and when dried either in the air or in a kiln is ready for the market. The present price obtained is £2. 2*s.* a ton for the best, and £1. 4*s.* for the inferior quality. The only observation I have to make is the facility afforded to improper communication from carrying on the business by retail; a number of individuals are admitted into the prison and to the view of the prisoners for the purposes of this traffic; the prisoners being employed in packing the whiting and placing it in the carts of the purchasers. I think it would be better if the entire produce of the manufactory could be sold or let to one individual. The junk for picking into oakum is sent into the prison by tradesmen, who allow 4*s.* a hundred weight for the labour. The average quantity picked by a prisoner daily is 5 lbs. The tread-wheels for males formerly stood in two yards, but the division wall has been taken down since the adoption of the silence system, and the hard labour and employment is carried on in the same area. The wheel is partitioned for separate labour. The men who break the limestone sit in pens with their faces to the wall, and with wooden partitions between each other. The matron says, "There is very great difficulty in teaching the women to be upon the wheels, and at the same time to guard against accidents. I tremble when they first go to the wheel. I often fetch one of the turnkeys when I think there is danger. It is frequently the case that the women bleed at the nose when first put to the wheel. One female was caught in the wheel some years ago, and though much injured escaped with life."

SCALE OF TREAD-MILL LABOUR.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners or Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
January ... December .	6	30	8½	32 feet.	1-3d off 2-3d on	11,520	720	7,683	By an Indicator.	Manufacture of whiting.
February . March ... September October .. November .	9	30	8½	32 feet.	1-3d on 2-3d off	17,280	1080	11,520		
April .... May ..... June .... July ..... August ...	10	30	8½	32 feet.	1-3d on 2-3d off	19,200	1200	12,800		

The tread-mill for females is calculated to revolve about 2000 feet less daily than the one for males, but the rate has never been accurately ascertained.

Offences and Punishments.—The usual offences are infractions of silence and disorderly conduct, punished by confinement in the refractory cells and stoppages of food. Whipping, when by order of the Court, is described as severe; a birch rod is used for boys. It is inflicted by one of the turnkeys.

Scourge.—Handle of rope covered with leather 13 inches in length, with nine lashes of large whip-cord, seven knots in each, and 17 inches in length.

Irons.—7½ lbs.; boys' irons 5¾ lbs.

Number of Offences, see Table.

Visits.—The prisoners are visited by order from a magistrate, and the interview with their friends takes place in the interior of the prison. A convenient place for this purpose is much wanted. Attempts have been made by strangers to introduce tobacco on these occasions. Letters are under the usual restrictions.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The meat, flour, oatmeal, and bread are contracted for quarterly by public advertisement; the quantities as they come in are entered by the keeper, and checked with the quarterly bills, which are audited and paid every three months. The coals are supplied from the general stock laid in for the whole of the municipal establishments of the town.

EXPENDITURE from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.

Prison Diet for the Year.	Extra Allowances by Order of the Surgeon.	Male and Female Clothing.	Furniture and Bedding.	Soap, Candles, Fuel, and Carting the same.	Stationery, Books of Accounts, and Books of Moral and Religious Instruction.	Washing and Cooking for the Prisoners.	Allowed Prisoners for Work done for the Prison.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
640 14 8	..	136 7 3	10 9 0	83 1 0	31 8 6	..	..

Straw.	Removing Prisoners to take their Trial at the Sessions or Assizes.	Removing Transported Convicts.	Paid for Prisoners as per Contract (if any.)	Repairs in and about the Prison.	Sundries.	Alterations and Additions in and about the Prison.	Total Expenses of the Prison for the Year.
£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
5 0 0	6 6 9	15 1 7	..	..	251 11 6	..	1180 0 3
					Salaries, &c.		625 4 4
							1805 4 7
					Earnings, Maintenance of Soldiers, and Fines .		115 16 11
							1689 7 8

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Kingston upon Hull. Town and County Gaol and House of Correction.

Books.—The books of this establishment are not altogether so simple or complete as they might be. In some cases the nominal distinction of Gaol and House of Correction is unnecessarily preserved by keeping two sets of books, while in others it is entirely departed from.

To arrive at a correct conclusion of the value of the whiting manufacture a much more minute and business-like method is required than the one now practised.

Bread Book.—Containing entries of the quantities daily sent in, and their prices. Similar books are kept for the meat and oatmeal.

Labour Book.—Entries of the amount of the daily pennies due to the prisoners at hard labour, and paid to them on their discharge; a receipt is taken from each prisoner in the following form:—

Borough of KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, } Received of the Governor of the Gaol the sum of £ for Days, allowed for Labour, at one Penny per Day, this Day of 183 .

Inventory Book.

Fines Book.—The keeper pays the amount of fines over to the town treasurer, quarterly.

Description Book.—Arranged under the heads of No.—name—committing magistrate—Age. under | above—Size. feet | inches—Description. hair | eyes | complexion—Clothes. coat | trowsers—birth—trade or occupation—read or write—previous committals—general remarks.

Discharge Book.—

Prisoner's Property Book.

Registers.

Daily State Book, and Reward Book.

Punishment Book.—Similar to the one in use at Wakefield: the keeper hearing the complaints every morning.

Keeper's Journal.—Entries of occurrences within the prison.

Visiting Magistrate's Book.—The latter containing entries of visits and orders for clothing.

Extract.—"23rd March, 1837. A —— for having sprung upon, and assaulted and beaten E. C. a wardsman, sentenced by the magistrates to receive 36 lashes."

Debtors.—Debtors are received here from the superior courts, and from a local one for the recovery of small debts. Their conduct is described as extremely disorderly. On my way to attend Divine service on a Sunday morning at the prison, I found several of them smoking in the yards. The turnkeys in evidence say, "The conversation of the debtors is very bad; gambling is frequently going forward; we have destroyed many packs of cards, they write upon the doors and knock things into the walls, there is the greatest difficulty in getting them to perform the necessary acts of cleanliness. The night watchman says, "The debtors very frequently make noises during the night, knocking at the doors of their cells and shouting, and I should imagine from the noise they have made that they must have been intoxicated; I have heard them from 12, to 3 o'clock in the morning.

The female debtors are very inconveniently placed close to the males, and at so great a distance from the female side of the prison, as to preclude their being within sight, or even call of

a female officer. Their only means of directing attention to their wants is by jingling a key, or some iron instrument against the bars, and, at the same time, disturbing the whole prison. They are not so sufficiently cut off from communicating but that conversation may take place between them and the males.

General Discipline.—The daily routine of discipline is as follows:—Upon ringing of the bell the prisoners make their beds, and after a quarter of an hour allowed for this they are unlocked, and descend from their several wards to work. A wardsman stands midway on the staircases to prevent communication, and see all down. The taskmaster delivers out the materials, and puts them all to labour. They continue till nearly 8 o'clock, and as they come off the wheel for rest, they wash in the basins in the centre of the yard, soap and towels being provided for this purpose. At eight they go to breakfast, first marching round the yard for a few minutes. One of the turnkeys superintends the issue of the provisions to the cooks, and every man's mess in a tin can with spoon is found before him as he enters. The prisoners sit down, the roll is called, and grace said. Half an hour is allowed for breakfast, and from thence they proceed to chapel. All classes take their meals, and marching exercise together. In chapel, the keeper or chief turnkey reads prayers, which occupy half an hour. The prisoners return to their several occupations, and remain until 12. After dinner they are exercised in file until one; then return to labour, which is continued until six, or as long as day light in the winter will admit. At six they go to supper, and after this meal is concluded one of the turnkeys reads prayers, and the locking up takes place. They retire by one class at a time to their cells. There are lights in the passages, and the turnkeys patrol until 10 o'clock, when the night watchman comes on. The exterior doors leading from the ranges into the debtors' yards are closed at dark, and at nine they are locked up in their sleeping rooms, but are not required to put out their lights. On Sundays the prisoners are unlocked at a quarter before seven; they wash in the yards of their separate classes: then go to the double yard where they exercise altogether until eight. In fine weather during the intervals of Divine service they sit on forms in the open air with their books; otherwise, in the room where they take their meals. The number and description of prisoners employed as assistants in the discipline, and other offices, are as follows:—

RETURN of WARDSMEN and MEN employed.

Wardsmen.	E. C.	Committed 12 months, for stealing a silver snuff-box. A native of Suffolk.
,,	S. L. Schoolmaster.	Committed 6 months, for stealing Bibles and Hymn-books; previously convicted of pledging goods without leave of the owners.
,,	T. M.	Committed two years, for stealing 19 promissory notes, value £5 each. A native of London.
,,	J. K.	Committed 9 months, for assaulting and ill-treating a boy.
Wardswoman.	P. K. . . .	Committed 6 months, for stealing a silver watch; previously committed to York Castle for the murder of her husband, but no bill found.
		Only one wardswoman employed during the summer months.
Kitchen.	S. C.	Committed for 6 months, for stealing a purse, containing 2 sovereigns, 1 half-crown, 2 shillings, and four-penny piece.
,,	S. D.	Committed for 12 months, for stealing ten-pound note, 5 sovereigns, 1 half-sovereign, 1 shilling, and sixpence.
,,	M. S.	Committed for 4 months, for stealing 7 shillings.
Employed cleaning Prison.	W. J. Aged 54	Committed for 3 months, for stealing a rough frock-coat.

The wardsmen receive the diet and allowance of those at hard labour.

The silence system is enforced in this prison, but requires greatly increased zeal and attention from the officers before brought to the perfection of which it is capable. The keeper has only been recently appointed, and cannot reasonably be expected to perform the duties with all the readiness of an experienced officer. I recommend to him a greater dependance upon himself, which I have no doubt will grow upon him, and the exaction of proper respect from those under him. A paid schoolmaster I regard as indispensable in carrying on the discipline. The prisoner at present employed in this office I believe to have been badly selected; and under any circumstances the school should not be left without the presence of an officer. The chapel requires some alteration as to the placing of the prisoners, and the means of inspection should be made more complete. The debtors while there should be placed beyond the possibility of carrying on communication with the women. I recommend the discontinuance of the one penny a day paid for labour; this recommendation I cannot better illustrate, than by the following statements from the officers; one says, "I have known the prisoners spend their earnings as soon as they go out; one received 6*s.* in the morning on his discharge, and by three o'clock the same day was committed for picking pockets with 3*s.* of the earnings about him.." The keeper states, "There was a prisoner here convicted of felony for stealing in lodging houses, of whom I had the greatest hopes of reformation. He was well educated and of most respectable connexions, and wrote the following letter to his brother while here:

MY DEAR BROTHER.

Your letter of the 8th instant duly came to hand, and I do assure you I feel much indebted to you for writing; it has in some measure lessened my grief, tending to convince me that I still hold a place in your affections. I judge myself totally unworthy either to

write or to hear from any of you; but to obtain a knowledge of my sentence I concluded you would resort to some of the Hull newspapers, where you would have found it recorded—six months to hard labour, which terminates on the 4th July next. I have hitherto been chiefly working on the wheel, and a short time been breaking stones, both of which occupations I am incompetent to, as you are aware my constitution is much impaired ; but I will strive to bear all with patience and humility, under full conviction that I deserve tenfold. This punishment, I beg to assure you, will teach me a most salutary lesson ; and I trust to God, at its expiration I shall have cause to rejoice. I am sorry to hear of ———'s affliction, yet if it has its proper and perhaps intended effect, she and hers may have great cause to be thankful. It is a painful reflection that we have all been so long engaged in the pursuit of poor, puny, and perishable objects, while all of any importance has been totally neglected. Surely, it is high time to seek the Lord. When you next write to ———, tell my sisters I hope to hear from them soon. I have one request to make to you, which is, that you will send me towards the latter end of the summer, to the care of Mr. ———, some of your cast off apparel, they will do very well to leave here in; and my old clothes, which I am working in, are already in complete rags. I have only to add, that you have my constant, and I hope sincere prayers, for your happiness in time and in eternity.

Remaining, most truly
Your affectionate Brother,

DEAR ——,

I thank you kindly for your remembrance of me in my brother's letter, I beg your acceptance of mine in return, and believe me,

Yours truly, &c.

"I made him a wardsman, supplied him with clothes, and told him on his leaving that I should be very happy to hear from him of his doing well, and that I would pay the postage. He received on the morning of his discharge 12*s*. for earnings, and upon leaving the prison went to a lodging-house, broke open all the drawers in the absence of the proprietor, stole therefrom 14*s*. and made off by steamer to London."

Clothing for all the prisoners, particularly the females, is much required. Reception cells are also wanted; and I recommend a more frequent use of the disinfecting oven for the clothing. I conceive it incumbent on the surgeon to examine all prisoners before they are classed, and particularly the females who are subjected to the labour of the wheel, that it may be first ascertained whether they are fit and competent to it. The exterior gates are left frequently in charge of females, while their husbands are engaged in other duties: a porter for this purpose would be much better. The cooking and washing by the females in the basement of the keeper's house, makes it quite impossible to prevent them communicating with the male prisoners who are employed as sweepers. This was particularly noticeable on the day of inspection. Another female officer appears to be required. The kitchen is almost intolerable from the want of ventilation. The female prisoners are also improperly permitted to leave their wards and go to the keeper's house and turnkeys' lodges, to assist in washing their private linen. All the officers speak most favourably of the improved state of the prison since the introduction of the silent system. The police of the town are marched down to the prison weekly, and see all the prisoners for the purpose of recognizing them.

Upon going through this prison on the day of inspection, I found a female prisoner in the refractory cells, about 11 or 12 years of age ; and, upon further inquiry, it appears to have been a practice, now I trust put an end to, to send children to this gaol with a written note from a magistrate to the keeper in the following form :—

"*Guildhall, Hull.*

"Let the prisoner, ————, be imprisoned in the gaol one calendar month, in a solitary cell, on bread and water; the same being with consent of her parents."

The annexed Return gives, as far as can be ascertained (they not being registered), the number and particulars of those who have been so confined.

A LIST of JUVENILE OFFENDERS, who have been Committed to the Gaol by consent of their Parents or Relations, and placed to Solitary Confinement, from Sept. 1, 1835, to Sept. 12, 1837.

NAMES.	AGE.	When Received.	Term of Punishment.	Offences.
		1836.		
—. —. . .	13	Feb. 10 . .	1 week, and whipped .	Felony.
—. —. . .	12	ditto . .	ditto ditto . .	ditto.
—. —. . .	12	ditto . .	ditto ditto . .	ditto.
—. —. . .	11	ditto . .	ditto ditto . .	ditto.
—. —. . .	6	March 2. .	7 days	ditto.
—. —. . .	6	ditto . .	ditto	ditto.
—. —. . .	7	ditto . .	ditto	ditto.
—. —. . .	13	April 7 . .	ditto	ditto.
—. —. . .	13	May 2 . .	ditto	ditto.
—. —. . .	9	May 21 . .	3 days	ditto.
—. —. . .	11	June 2 . .	1 week, and whipped .	ditto.
—. —. . .	13	June 3 . .	ditto ditto . .	ditto.
—. —. . .	10	June 4 . .	1 week	Assault.
—. —. . .	19	July 4 . .	14 days	ditto.
—. —. . .	12	July 18 . .	14 days, and whipped .	ditto.
—. —. . .	9	ditto . .	ditto ditto . .	ditto.
—. —. . .	13	August 24 .	1 week	Felony.

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Kingston-upon-Hull.

Town and County Gaol and House of Correction.

LIST OF JUVENILE OFFENDERS, &c., (*continued.*)

NAMES.	AGE.	When Received.	Term of Punishment.	Offences.
		1836.		
—. —. . .	10	August 24 .	1 week	Felony.
—. —. . .	12	Sept. 2 . .	ditto	Stealing 3 books.
—. —. . .	14	Sept. 5 . .	ditto	Stealing pears.
—. —. . .	12	Sept. 6 . .	ditto	Stealing apples.
—. —. . .	12	Sept. 12. .	ditto	Stealing 6 silver spoons.
M. D. . .	10	Sept. 13. .	7 days	Stealing a deal end.
S. S. . . .	8	Sept. 19. .	ditto	Stealing wool.
ditto . .	8	Oct. 4 . .	14 days	Stealing brass.
W. W. . .	12	Oct. 27 . .	1 week	Felony.
B. W. . .	15	Dec. 3 . .	7 days	Stealing biscuits.
J. S. . . .	16	Dec. 8 . .	1 week	Stealing 32 duplicate tickets.
		1837.		
J. H. . . .	13	Jan. 13 . .	ditto	Stealing copper.
J. S. . . .	15	Feb. 22 . .	14 days	Stealing a knife.
S. S. . . .	11	Feb. 23 . .	7 days, and whipped .	Stealing a pair of shoes.
W. C. . .	11	ditto . .	ditto ditto . .	
T. W. . .	10	Feb. 24 . .	6 days, and whipped .	
W. L. . .	17	April 25 .	14 days	Stealing 3*s.* in copper.
J. A. . . .	12	May 17 . .	1 week	Stealing 5 bottles.
C. A. . . .	9	May 30 . .	8 days	Sleeping in the open air.
R. P. . . .	12	June 7 . .	ditto	The same.
J. W. . . .	14	June 19. .	1 week	Disorderly.
J. H. . . .	14	June 27. .	ditto	Stealing 2*s.* 6*d.*
J. D. . . .	16	July 26 . .	14 days	Stealing a pair of shoes and a sovereign.
P. M'A. . .	10	July 31 . .	3 days	Stealing 4*d.*
J. P. . . .	9	ditto . .	ditto	
W. P. . .	6	ditto . .	ditto	
J. C. . . .	7	ditto . .	ditto	
J. W. . . .	12	Aug. 12 . .	1 week	Stealing 2 bottles.
C. R. . . .	16	Aug. 22. .	ditto	Stealing fruit.
E. H. . . .	13	ditto . .	ditto	
J. S. . . .	15	ditto . .	ditto	
G. D. . .	13	Aug. 24 . .	ditto	Stealing pears.
W. L. . .	11	Aug. 28 . .	3 days	Found in an inclosed yard, with intent to steal apples.
B. C. . . .	11	ditto . .	ditto	

These children are confined in a dark cell upon bread and water, are not visited by the chaplain, and do not attend divine service. The chaplain says,—"He has no opportunity of communicating with them, they being in dark cells; that children of six years of age have been thus confined; they have cried the whole time, and one whom he interrogated could only reply, 'I want to go to my mother.'" The matron says,—"The child now in solitary cried so incessantly for the first two days that she quite terrified me: a little boy, six years of age, cried so that the late keeper was obliged to go to the magistrates and get him released. I have had them a month in these cells. I am quite sure the first two or three days is most effective; they get hardened to it afterwards, and the boys soon come back."

The great cause of juvenile delinquency, the want of early employment, developes itself in this seaport in the same manner as at Liverpool. Children of the humbler classes go out daily for the purpose of *cranching, i. e.* picking up bits of iron, copper, rope, about the docks and shipping, all of ready sale. This may be with honest intention in the first instance, but the spirit of emulation among these boys as to who shall collect the largest quantity soon leads them to take all they can lay their hands upon. The number of females committed is considerable, chiefly prostitutes, but who do not appear of the very early age so noticeable in the metropolis. The matron says,—"You may punish the girls of the town as you will; they are very orderly in prison, but they return directly they are out to their old haunts, and come back again."

OFFICERS.

Keeper.—Appointed 1837; salary 180*l.* as gaoler, and 30*l.* as keeper of the House of Correction; coals and garden. The appointment of gaoler is in the sheriff, the town of Hull being a county of itself; that of keeper of the House of Correction in the town council and magistrates.

Matron.—Age 52; appointed 1837; has done the actual duties of matron since 1829; salary 20*l.*; coals and candles; has the perquisites of the bones from the kitchen.

Turnkey.—Age 60; appointed 1827; salary 62*l.*; chapel clerk 3*l.*; coals and candles; married; read and write; resides in prison.

Turnkey.—Age 50; appointed 1829; salary 57*l.*, and 3*l.* 3*s.* for trimming the lamps; coals and candles; married; read and write; resides in prison.

Taskmaster.—Age 50; appointed 1831; salary 50*l.*; resides in prison.

Watchman.—Age 41; salary 54*l.* 12*s.*; does not reside in the prison.

Chaplain.—Appointed 1829; salary 100*l.*; no other cure.

Surgeon.—Appointed 1827; salary 60*l.*, for medicines and attendance.

Note.—Since the period of my visit a new code of rules have been enforced in this prison, and the keeper informs me, that the prohibition of tobacco to the debtors, and the restricting of the admission of beer to those only who maintain themselves, have been attended with most beneficial results. A daily service is now performed by the chaplain, and visits to the convicted are prohibited for the first six months.

RETURN of the NUMBER, DESCRIPTION, and SENTENCES, &c., of PRISONERS confined in the TOWN and COUNTY GAOL and HOUSE OF CORRECTION at KINGSTON-UPON-HULL, from October 1836 to October 1837, with the different Divisions or Apartments appropriated to their Reception.

NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN THE PRISON IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR.

Debtors.						Felons.		Misdemeanors.										Under the Vagrant Act.		Total Number of Prisoners confined in the Prison in the course of the Year.								Above 17 Years of Age.		Under 17 Years of Age.	
Debts on Contract.		Forfeiture of Recognizances, &c.		Offences against the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Laws.				Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.		Under the Game Laws.				Under the Bastardy Laws.				In Custody at the Commencement of the Year.		Received from the Custody of other Keepers, and enumerated in their Returns.		Received under Commitments, and who have not been in the Custody of other Keepers for the same Offence.		Total.					
												Tried by a Jury.		Summary Convictions.																	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
168	10	1	. .	1	. .	118	49	6	6	217	30	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	96	65	45	25	1	. .	371	118	417	143	305	166	74	15

State of Education . . { Can neither Read nor Write. Males, 103; Females, 70. | Can Read only. Males, 40; Females, 38. | Can Read and Write imperfectly. Males, 228; Females, 28. | Can Read and Write well. Males, 47; Females, 7.

The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return.												Average Number of Prisoners daily.		The greatest Number of Prisoners at one Time in the course of the Year.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement.		Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped.		Labour and Employment.			Punishment for Offences within the Prison.				Cases of Sickness and Deaths.				Cases of Reformation in the course of the Year.	Number of Passes granted in the course of the Year.
Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Prisoners for Trial.		Prisoners under Sentence.		Total.								Privately.	Publicly.	Hard Labour.	Employment, not being Hard Labour.	Not Employed.	Whipping.	Irons.	Refractory Cells.	Other Punishment.	Slight Indisposition.	Infirmary Cases.	The greatest Number of Sick at one Time.	Deaths.		
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.														
20	1	30	9	26	11	15	5	11	6	76	21	62	24	85	32	54	9	4	. .	366	94	..	1	..	86	599	309	15	21	..	Unknown.	. .

Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.						Divisions and Apartments for Prisoners, Separation, Employment, &c. &c. &c.																											
—	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four times or more.	Returned to this Prison during the Year.	Number of Sleeping Cells, &c.										Refractory Cells.			Wards or Divisions in the Prison.	Day-rooms.	Work-rooms.	Tread-wheel, Houses or Divisions upon the Tread-wheels.	Receiving Rooms or Cells.	Divisions in the Chapel.	Infirmaries, or Rooms for the Sick.		Warm & Cold Baths, or Bathing Tubs.	Airing Yards.	Cost of Prison Diet per Day per Head.
						Cells where only one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps and Works.		Cells where one Prisoner Sleeps only.		Cells where more than one Prisoner Sleeps.		Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in all cases.		Light.	Dark.	Apartments below ground.											
					Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.											Male.	Fem.			
To this Prison.	21	16	8	11	22	15	. .	. .	. .	. .	67	30	. .	. .	89	32	..	7	. .	5	6	2	2	1	8	1	2	1	9	4*d.*
Other Prisons.	..	..	..	..																										

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Hull. Police Lock-ups.

HULL.—POLICE LOCK-UPS.

A most efficient day and night police has been established in this important town; the system of discipline enforced and their soldier-like appearance are extremely creditable to the superintendant, nor is the interior economy of their management less to be admired. There are two station-houses with lock-ups, in situations conveniently apart from each other. The principal lock-up, in Blanket-row, is very imperfectly fitted, wanting in convenience, and neither secure nor fire-proof.

ADMEASUREMENT of the CELLS in the STATION HOUSES appropriated to the HULL POLICE.

	Length.		Breadth.		Height.	
BLANKET ROW.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.	Ft.	In.
Male	16	3	10	..	11	6
Female	16	4	8	11	11	6
JARRATT STREET.						
Male	13	8	10	10	12	1
Female	13	8	10	10	12	1

It is much to be regretted that the jurisdiction of the police does not extend over the Docks, they being private property, where the great proportion of offences are committed. The security of this part of the town appears very inadequately provided for by a few watchmen by night, and none by day.

The number of juvenile offenders who have passed through these lock-ups in the year 1837, is as follows :—

	Males.	Females.
Disorderlies	6	..
	4	..
Malicious trespasses	1	..
Vagrants	7	2
	18	2

The superintendant of police states, "The juvenile offenders in this town are at present but few, owing, I presume, to the suppression of two or three houses, the keepers of which instigated destitute and forsaken children to theft, and received the articles they purloined. The main source of encouragement to juvenile delinquents at present is to be found in the system pursued by low dealers in marine stores, who are ready to purchase articles at less than their value, without asking any questions as to how the sellers obtain them. I think the police ought to be authorized by law to examine the marine store dealers' books, at any hour; the fear they would then be under would prevent their making these purchases."

BEVERLEY.—BOROUGH GAOL.

Beverley. Borough Gaol.

In the year 1832 the corporation of this borough new fronted the town-hall, and built the adjoining prison, at an expense of 4,000*l*. The entrance to the town-hall is by a Doric portico, and in a line with it is the keeper's house and prison. The prison is detached from other buildings, is conveniently disposed, and well suited for its present purpose—the reception of debtors and prisoners under examination. The accommodation for prisoners consists of three distinct ranges, with as many paved airing-yards, privy, and water laid on to each yard. On each ground floor is a day-room and two cells, and the same above. There are fire-places in the day-rooms, and the windows are glazed. The roofs and floors of the cells are flagged, and the staircases are stone. The airing-yards are divided by lofty walls, and the fronts of the ranges are placed laterally to them. The sleeping cells, 13 in number, are 7 ft. 6 in. square, 8 ft. high.

Diet.—Sixpence a-day is allowed by the town council for the food of the prisoners, which is provided for them in the following manner :—

Breakfast and supper one quart oatmeal gruel, half a pound of bread; dinners Sundays and Tuesdays one quart of stew, heads and bones, and half a pound of potatoes; Mondays and Saturdays one quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread; Thursdays half a pound of boiled beef, one pound of potatoes; Friday one quart of broth from the beef of the day before, half a pound of bread. Prisoners are permitted to purchase an additional pound of bread.

Bedding.—Iron bedsteads, two rugs, two blankets, and palliasse.

Cleanliness.—The prison, and every thing connected with it, unexceptionably neat and clean.

This prison was constructed for the purpose of receiving the prisoners for trial, and on conviction from the borough sessions, but the town, since the passing of the Municipal Act, having received no grant, it is therefore but little used except for debtors from the borough court, and those from a jurisdiction over the town and liberties of Beverley for the recovery

of small debts. The prison is also used as a receptacle for vagrants, who are provided with food and lodging for the night, and passed out of the town the next morning.

A very proper register of prisoners is kept. The keeper is also high constable, is 53 years of age, has a salary of 41*l.* 10*s.* and the fees upon precepts, &c.

YORKSHIRE.—West Riding.

WAKEFIELD.—House of Correction for the West Riding.

Since the last visit of the inspector, the magistrates of the West Riding, with a laudable anxiety to perfect the discipline of this House of Correction, have agreed to the following resolutions:—

"*Wakefield Adjourned Sessions, 6th December,* 1836.

"Ordered—That a Prayer-book and Testament be provided for each prisoner, and delivered to him on his coming into the gaol, and returned to the keeper on the discharge of such prisoner.

1. That Mr. Hartley be requested to examine the hospitals, and report to the visiting justices the best mode of improving the same, especially the dispensary, and that one room be boarded.
2. That the privies be provided with a better supply of water.
3. That pillows and trusses be provided for the infirmary, under the direction of the surgeon.
4. That a person be appointed to superintend the infirmary.
5. That the employments in the prison be concentrated, as recommended by the inspector, as soon as may be practicable.
6. That wardsmen be by degrees discontinued, and hired inspectors be engaged in their stead.
7. That the servants of the establishment who reside out of the prison be required to dine within the prison.
8. That the allowance of 2*s.* 6*d.* to each clergyman for attending on inquests at the house of correction be discontinued.
9. That the keeper of the house of correction do pay quarterly to the treasurer of the riding such fines and penalties, payable in aid of the county rate, as he may have received from persons in his custody.

Pontefract Session, 3d April, 1837.

Ordered—That the salary of the keeper of the house of correction at Wakefield be increased to the annual sum of 500*l.* in lieu of all perquisites heretofore received by him."

I inspected this prison on the 17th of November, 1837, and following days, and have the satisfaction of reporting most favourably upon the alterations which have recently taken place in the discipline and interior economy of this establishment. I shall first proceed to detail those in connexion with the discipline, premising that the complete developement of their benefit has been prevented by an extraordinary influx of prisoners, perhaps in some degree to be accounted for by the pressure upon the manufacturing interests in the vicinity. The keeper states, "The prison was so full in June last, there being 630, that we were obliged to place the prisoners when at labour and at meals in the open yards, and in the passages." It will be observed that the magistrates have sanctioned the important principle that "employment of prisoners as wardsmen be gradually discontinued, and hired inspectors be engaged in their stead." Eight have accordingly been appointed, but the unusually crowded state of the prison has prevented the entire abolition of the former practice. I annex the evidence of the officers and prisoners upon the results of this measure, although but partially in operation. The chaplain says, "The state of the prison is altogether improved. I never have any complaints now by the prisoners of being ill treated, as they often used to do when so many wardsmen were employed; you never see any of that irritability displayed that was formerly the case when the complaints were heard; they now submit without any exhibition of temper. I think it would still be better if all the wardsmen were done away with. One of the greatest improvements is the appointment of a paid hospital nurse. It used to be a nuisance to go into the hospital, it is now a pleasure. The hospital man is a very respectable person; he always attends when I am present, and occasionally reads to the prisoners himself. I do not think it possible that contamination can take place in the prison; as far as my observation goes, I do not think mutual corruption can be said to exist here. The appointment of paid officers is, in my opinion, a great improvement." The first superintendent says, "The prisoners like the paid officers better than the wardsmen; I have spoken to several of them, and they said 'that they would rather have the paid officers than the wardsmen; that the officers, at any rate, would speak the truth, and not, like the wardsmen, tell lies.' The prison is much improved." The second superintendent says, "I think the placing of paid officers over the prisoners has had a very good effect, the irritable feeling is sensibly diminished." The keeper states, "There have been a great many improvements, which make the discipline much more effective, and would still more so if not impeded by the increased number of prisoners, and the confined space for them. The paid officers in the first instance took the wardsmen as their models in the execution of their duty; they are now getting the right degree of information, and bringing before me those offences only meriting punishment, and not the host of trivial ones brought by the wardsmen, and even by themselves on their first appointment. It was the second of May when the inspectors fully entered upon their duties, but we were

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT. Reports on Separate Prisons. Wakefield. House of Correction.

compelled, from the number of prisoners, to retain the wardsmen in the dormitories. The greater number of complaints are from these dormitories."

Evidence of Prisoners. ———— age 19. "Has been several times in the prison. Has been here when they were allowed to talk. It was much easier. Then came the wardsmen; they used to know some of the men, and did not report them; some they did not know, and used to report. I am sure it is better to have officers than wardsmen; I find it so. I would sooner have an officer than a prisoner, who sometimes reports me for nothing. I have been taken up innocent often by the wardsmen. I do not find it the case now. I was here seven months and a week. The officers behave very kind, as well as they can. I have bribed the wardsman with a handkerchief not to report us. I have given a pair of stockings to a man named ————, serving two months; many a man has done it besides me. There used to be tobacco. I do not know how it got in. There is none now. I have not seen any at all lately. I never at any time saw them make use of it but to chew."

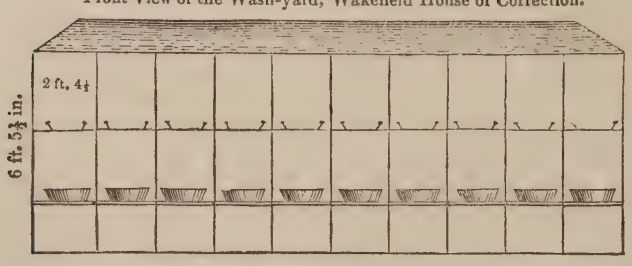
————, on the point of leaving the prison, his time being up. "Has been in prison three times since the silence system commenced, and has never been punished. There is a great difference since last coming; thinks it almost impossible to talk without being seen or heard. It is worse now than ever it was since he has been in prison. He durst not run the chance of talking. Thinks it better to have paid officers than wardsmen."

————, age 45. "Been in the prison 12 months. The wardsmen really did report people when they were not guilty. I was a wardsman, but did not. I always did my duty. It is a great deal more comfortable to have officers than prisoners. I have heard that one man, about a year ago, used to swop his mess for handkerchiefs. There is much less talking since the officers were appointed. The prisoners are much more exact in attending to the officers. If there is any talking, it is very sly indeed. There used to be more talking when they were working by gas-light, but they have not the chance of it now. I should not like to be alone. If a prisoner was in a cell all alone he would have nothing to take up his attention. If I had my time of six months to serve over again, I would rather have the paid officers than the wardsmen, although it is very well to be one, for the extra allowance. I have nothing to say against the officers; they have not behaved amiss to me, or any body else. I do not think there is any chance of making acquaintance in prison; they cannot talk at all at night, nor at any other time. If I was in a cell and was to call to the opposite room over the passage, it would sound so as to be heard over the whole of the prison. I can hear the turnkeys unlock a door, and they could just as well hear me if I was to talk. The chaplain is a nice man; he takes a great deal of pains; if ever there was a good man, he is one; he is the most attentivest man in this prison."

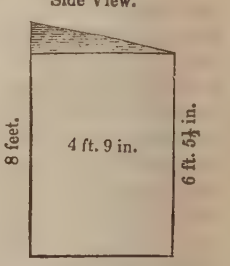
I am myself convinced, not only from the above testimony, but from personal observation, that the appointment of these officers has been highly beneficial, nor is the advantage confined solely to the interior of the prison. The suppression of so many offices attainable by prisoners diminishes those calculations of impunity or evasion of prison discipline which but too often occupy the minds of the adepts in criminal pursuits.

A most marked improvement has been effected in the manner in which the prisoners proceed to and from their cells. The officers are stationed at every point where it is possible that communication may take place, and form a chain of sentries. As the prisoners are let out of their cells they follow each other, and are kept at a distance of not less than eight paces; they proceed in this way to the washing-places, which have, since the inspector's last visit, been erected in two of the airing-yards, viz.—25 in one, and 37 in the other. Towels, soap, and water are placed in each recess; the men as they come from their cells proceed one at a time to these pens, which are divided by brick partitions and covered at the top. Pegs are placed in the walls for hanging the clothes and towels. The prisoners, after washing, proceed to their respective labour, still preserving the distance from each other. I annex a sketch of these convenient washing-places, with their dimensions.

Front View of the Wash-yard, Wakefield House of Correction.



Side View.



In the evening, after supper, at a signal given, the officers station themselves at their respective posts on the stair-cases and corridors, and when all are prepared the prisoner No. 1 leaves his seat on being called, and goes at a quick pace to his cell; when No. 1 has proceeded a distance of 12 paces, No. 2 is called, who follows, and so on until the whole are gone through. The entire business of locking up is completed in a very short period of time from the quick pace in which the prisoners are compelled to move, and which the officers in the passages never suffer to abate. Having examined minutely this regulation, I am satisfied of the almost impossibility of communication during its progress.

The severity of the punishments has been much reduced; they are now calculated rather to impress the discipline on the mind of the prisoner, than as a penal infliction. The bread, or a portion of it only, is stopped at supper, and they are not, as formerly, deprived of the

whole meal. The prisoners now employed as sweepers are either infirm, or recommended for out-door work on account of their health. The extra allowance to those wardsmen who are still retained has been limited to half a pound of bread daily. All the prisoners, with the exception of the cooks, now attend Divine service. The rules are read over and explained to each prisoner on his first coming in, and also by the officers to the prisoners at other times, when assembled in the rooms where they take their meals. The prisoners at labour are more concentrated, and a much increased facility of inspection has accrued from the discontinuance of several unprofitable employments, such as burling, twine making, linen and woollen weaving, and watch-glass grinding. All prisoners sentenced to hard labour now take their turns at the wheel agreeably to the following scale:—

First Offence.

Length of Sentence.	Time on Tread-wheel.
6 months	6 weeks.
3 months	4 weeks.
2 months	3 weeks.
1 month	2 weeks.
Under	Every day.

Second Offence.

6 months	8 weeks.
3 months	6 weeks.
2 months	4 weeks.
1 month	3 weeks.
Under	Every day.

Third Offence.

6 months	12 weeks.
3 months	7 weeks.
2 months	5 weeks.
1 month	24 days.
Under	Every day.

Four or more Offences.

6 months	4 months.
3 months	2 months.
2 months	6 weeks.
1 month	Every day.

The scale of labour for those prisoners whose terms are for a longer period than six months is regulated according to their health and strength.

The prisoners alluded to in the last Report (page 133) as having been placed apart by themselves in cells to try the effect of the solitary or separate system, have been withdrawn from them and placed with the other prisoners, in consequence of the impossibility of finding work for the looms. The chaplain says, "I never found that the prisoners who were separate in cells by themselves at all morally improved by it. When they were brought down, two or three of the prisoners said they preferred the cells, for they escaped observation." The keeper states, "The prisoners who were confined in the cells separately day and night, were suddenly brought down and subjected to the ordinary discipline of the prison. Generally they became the most disorderly of the whole number. If any of our trifling directions were given them to move slower, or be more attentive, they were either disregarded, or but partially attended to in a very bad and insubordinate spirit. I remember an instance of one of them, when the wardsman asked him to make room for another, and happened slightly to touch his shoe; he jumped up and said, 'If you touch me, I'll knock your eyes out.' Another, when one of the officers put him in his place, said, 'What do you mean by pulling me about? I shall not go there,' and afterwards accused the officer of striking at him, but fortunately other prisoners were present, and the truth became apparent. They were not generally morally improved; they seemed much affected at times when spoken to, but were under less control than the other prisoners, for which reason the cells were preferred."

There appears to have been one escape from the prison during the present year; the particulars are detailed as follows in the keeper's journal:—"January 16, 1837. ————, a convicted felon, walked out of the prison this day. He was a wardsman, appointed to fetch work from the outer gate for the shoemakers. He effected his escape by putting on an old dress left by one of the workmen employed in repairing the gas-house, and boldly walking up to the gate, the porter carelessly let him out. March 1st, 1837. ———— was received back again this day, he gave himself up as an escaped prisoner."

Health.—The privy in the hospital has been improved, and pillows added to the bedding. The surgeon says, "The last year has been rather an unhealthy one; there was a great deal of influenza in the prison in the spring, which was followed by erysipelas. The cases of cutaneous diseases, such as scald head and itch, have been lately uncommonly prevalent, occasioned most likely by the prevailing poverty and distress. I have used in these cases chloride of lime with much success. This has been the case outside as well as in the prison. The conduct of the prisoners in the hospital has been much improved by the appointment of a paid superintendent, and would be more so if he slept there. There have been two cases of attempted suicide: ———— attempted to destroy himself by hanging, but was prevented by the wood giving way to which he was suspended. He had suffered much from despondency." I find the following entry in the visiting magistrates' book relating to the case of this prisoner:

—"One prisoner attempted self murder; since discharged. This individual was convicted in 10*l.* under the game laws; paid the fine, and was then convicted for not having a game certificate in 4*l.* 6*s.*, including expenses, and to be imprisoned till paid. These combined circumstances brought on a dejection of spirits, and caused him to attempt self-destruction." ————, a prisoner under religious despondency, also made several ineffectual attempts.

The surgeon further states, "The number of cases of men subject to epilepsy generally average six or even more: they could not be left safely in cells by themselves. Those liable to severe attacks all sleep now in the hospital. One man subject to epilepsy before admitted, as was learnt from his friends afterwards, died last year in the refractory cell. Nobody knew how he died; he was not heard."

A female who was placed by herself in consequence of the offensiveness of her disease, died under the following singular circumstances as detailed in the surgeon's journal:—

"————, age 31, died most awfully sudden. She had been repeatedly committed, and was under treatment for extensive ulceration of the throat, of a syphilitic nature, which had destroyed the greater part of the roof of her mouth and soft palate, and communicating with the nostrils. In attempting to swallow her dinner of beef and bread, a portion of it became entangled in the lower part of the pharynx, and pressing on the epiglottis produced instantaneous suffocation. Upon dissection we found most extensive ulceration of the pharynx, and so contracted as to embrace the portion of food so firmly as to prevent the action of the epiglottis, and thereby producing suffocation." The surgeon is of opinion, that if a person had been present to have afforded her assistance she might have been saved.

Return of Prisoners who have died in the House of Correction for the West Riding, at Wakefield, between Michaelmas 1836 and Michaelmas 1837.

Name.	Age.	Date of Admission into Prison.	Date of Admission into Sick Room.	Date of Death.	No. of Days in Sick Room.	Disease.
—. —. . .	75	June 29 . .	October 28. .	November 9 .	11	Great debility.
—. —. . .	36	October 29. .	November 7 .	November 10 .	3	Diarrhæa.
—. —. . .	68	Nov. 4, 1835 .	Dec. 3, 1836 .	January 7 . .	35	Erysipelas, terminating in effusion on the brain.
—. —. . .	59	April 21, 1835 .	Jan 22, 1837 .	January 30. .	8	Bronchitis and influenza.
—. —. . .	50	January 11. .	January 19. .	January 28. .	9	Influenza combined with asthma.
—. —. . .	49	January 17. .	January 27. .	February 4. .	8	Typhus fever, following an attack of influenza.
—. —. . .	30	September 20 .	January 27. .	March 1 . .	32	Bronchitis and influenza.
—. —. . .	65	January 23. .	February 3 .	February 4. .	1	Acute bronchitis.
—. —. . .	46	October 28, 1835	Feb. 25, 1837 .	March 6 . .	9	Exhaustion and general debility.
—. —. . .	19	January 12. .	March 19 . .	August 17 . .	151	Marasmus.
—. —. . .	41	April 20 . .	May 8 . . .	May 13 . .	5	Inflammation of the lungs.
—. —. . .	18	March 5 . .	June 20 . .	August 13 . .	54	Consumption.
—. —. . .	39	March 17, 1836	June 27, 1837 .	July 1 . . .	3	Dysentery.
—. —. . .	65	July 6 . . .	August 3 . .	August 20 . .	17	Dropsy and general debility.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—I attended divine service. The prisoners were extremely attentive. Their demeanour generally appears to me of a more satisfied and resigned character than when last here. I visited the school, and was extremely well pleased with the method pursued by the chaplain in his examination of the boys. They read the 9th chapter of St John, each taking a verse. The chaplain then put questions to them, to ascertain whether they comprehended what they had read. It was pleasing to see the eagerness of the boys to reply, influenced by the desire of surpassing each other. The chaplain, besides putting the questions, explains those portions which it is not likely they can understand, and always endeavours to illustrate his explanations with references to their peculiar situations. The prisoners in the work rooms are read to continually during the day by one of themselves, selected for the purpose, and the chaplain himself frequently reads prayers in the mess-room in the evening. The schoolmaster takes the elementary part of the work, and, when that is got through, the chaplain takes them in charge. All the boys attend the chaplain four times a-week from 9 till 11. Two ladies visit the prison twice a-week, and instruct the female prisoners. The chaplain states, "The effect produced in the chapel is occasionally very great. I have known 10 or 11 in tears at a time, especially at the period of sessions, when I refer to their situations. Even with the few men we had in separate confinement I have been two hours of a day engaged with them, but very little good can be accomplished in 5 or 10 minutes. A great many prisoners come to me after their discharge in a state of destitution. The boys are generally apprentices who have run away from their masters, or have been neglected by their parents. A prisoner, named ————, who had been sentenced to three years' imprisonment, and in for two and a half, I am confident went away with every intention of leading a correct life. I received a letter from him asking advice as to what he should do, as his friends had turned their backs upon him and refused to receive him; he applied, at the same time, to be appointed schoolmaster in the prison. He was convicted of robbing a till. The cause of his lapse from honesty was drink. I do not

think he was a vicious man. He was entirely at a loss what to do, and suggested in his letter whether he should go into the army." I annex several extracts from the chaplain's journal.

"27th March, 1837.—Read prayers; returned home a little after 9 o'clock; came to the prison again in the afternoon, and remained from half past 2 till 6; went into the school and heard the men read, and talked to them for an hour and a half. Gave the sacrament to a man named ———: he was born at ——; age 24; brought up at a Roman Catholic college, and used to act as clerk to the priests; became acquainted with a young man there who was an infidel. They used to read Paine's works and other such publications; at length he became an infidel. They then both left and went to London, where they attended Carlile and Taylor's preaching; remained in London some time; came home; again left home, and came into Yorkshire to ——, where he stole some money; was taken, and sent here. Has read much on religion, and has conversed much with me on the difference of the Papist and Protestant belief. I did my best to point out to him what were the errors and abuses of the Romish faith, and told him to see if he could find any authority in the New Testament for the doctrine of transubstantiation, the only ground-work for religion. After allowing time to read and search the scriptures, I then talked again with him; impressed upon his mind most strongly the necessity of being freely convinced before he changed, telling him that I hated the spirit of proselytism; that I would rather he would remain in his present belief than change merely for the sake of change; that he would be only provoking God's anger against him; that, however glad I should be to see him convinced of his errors, yet I had no wish to see him come over to our Church merely to be able to say we could add one more to our number; and that, therefore, I would bid him again well examine himself, and see whether his heart was right in the sight of God, and his intentions of becoming a Protestant sincere; and that if, after a day or two's reflection, he continued in the same mind, I would give to him, as he had requested, the sacrament as administered in our Church. He did so, and then told me that he was in the same mind, and that he wished to have the sacrament. On this, I gave it to him; and sincerely do I pray that it will be blessed to his good, and that he will go on in the path of honesty and virtue, and become a sincere and honest member of the Protestant Church. He told me he would do his best to restore what he had stolen.

"5th June, 1837.—Read prayers; distributed tracts to some of the men; had a long conversation with a man called —— ——, from ———, who challenged a magistrate of that town, and is sent here for a year: his friends are most respectable, but have turned their backs upon him on account of his bad conduct. Went to the school and examined the boys; heard some repeat the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Ten Commandments. Of the boys, of whom I have 40 names down, 24 have been used to go to chapels, 4 to no place of worship, 2 to Roman Catholic, and 10 to church.

"7th June.—Examined 60 men to see how many had been brought up to go to a place of worship, and to what place they had been used to go. Out of the 60, 23 to church, 25 to chapels, 8 Roman Catholics (Irish), 1 had not been for 10 years, 1 not for seven, 1 but for three, and 1 (a Wakefield man) had never been; of the others, many had not been for the last year or two. Most of the men read, more or less.

"6th August.—We have now in the prison about 400 men and 67 women. Sorry to see the number for sessions again; but still more so to see so many coming again. With all our reading, talking, and preaching, but few, very few, compared with the number sent to prison, who are lastingly improved by the confinement, even under the present excellent system of discipline.

"13th September.—Heard the boys read, and talked some time, and questioned them on what they read; some answered very well, and have improved. Heard one little boy 10 years of age read, also repeat the Lord's Prayer, which I explained to him, also say his Creed. He is a very quick lad. His parents are dead, and I fear, having no one to take care of him, he will become a wicked man."

The following extracts are from the chaplain's School Journal and Character Book:—

"No. 251 came from sessions from Sheffield for six months. Parents live in Cheshire; came to Sheffield with ———, the engineer's horses; got into bad company, some of whom picked a man's pocket, and he was taken as the thief; says he did not commit the theft; seems a civil lad; been only at Sunday school; can read only short words.

"———, age 19, from Sheffield, a knife-grinder. Mother living. Regularly attended the Methodist school three years, but has not been for two years; can read and write; repeated in prison 30 verses of the 1st chapter of St. John; September 28th, repeated 25th chapter of St. Matthew; October 2d, repeated to the chaplain the 16th chapter of St. Mark.

"———, age 17, from ———, near Leeds. Been here once before; father, a mechanic, living; been at prison school when here before; used to go to a Methodist Sunday school; has not been to a place of worship for five years; read Testament and Lord's Prayer; not much improved.

"———, age 17, from ———, near Leeds. Two months' imprisonment for leaving his master; used to go to the Methodist Sunday school and chapel up to the time of coming here. Master a bad one; works him hard, and sometimes on Sundays; a great drunkard, and a bad man. Can read Testament.

"———, age 20, from sessions for six months; been five times before, twice for felony; used to go to Sunday school about four years ago; is an apprentice; had a bad master, a great drunkard. Parents alive, steady people, and well off; on account of his bad conduct have done nothing for him lately. Can read Testament."

Accounts, Expenditure, &c.—The entire of the keeper's perquisites have been discontinued, and a salary of 500*l.* a-year, in full of all, has been granted to him.

The tread-wheel is now employed in grinding flour for consumption beyond the limits of the soke, by which a very considerable saving has been effected. The flour consumed in the prison is ground at the soke mill. A book of monthly disbursements is now kept, and all accounts settled monthly. The monthly credit to the keeper has been considerably reduced in amount. Convenient books, showing the profit and loss account of each trade, have also been introduced.

General Discipline.—I have very few remarks to offer in addition to those already made. The conduct of the few remaining wardsmen appears to be so indifferent as to make me believe that the prison would be much better regulated without their assistance. Without a permanent reduction of the number of prisoners, which may be expected to take place when those from the

borough of Leeds are provided for in the prison about to be erected in that town, it is impossible the system of discipline can be effectively carried on, or its real value estimated. A separate cell for each prisoner at night is indispensable. The entire of the officers speak of the ill consequences arising from the dormitories where so many sleep together. I am not quite satisfied whether it would not be a better arrangement, even in a pecuniary point of view, to contract for the bread out of the prison. The prisoners employed as bakers would not be then subtracted from the discipline and the control of the officers. I see no necessity for the cooks sleeping over the cook-house. Their room was dirty and untidy. They might be let out of their cells, if necessary, rather earlier than the other prisoners. I think the large circular apertures intended for ventilating the cells might be diminished in size by bricking up a portion of them, and additional obstacles be thus thrown in the way of communication across the passages. A book for the entry of the daily issue of provisions and stores, and the periodical taking of stock and balancing it against consumption, is wanted. I have to regret that circumstances have interfered to prevent the erection of a new hospital and prison for the females, so much wanted in this establishment.* I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the activity and zeal of the keeper and officers of this prison, and of its greatly improved condition since my last visit. I annex a return of the officers during the years 1836 and 1837, showing the increase in expense, occasioned by the appointment of paid officers instead of wardsmen; also returns of the number of prisoners, their distribution and employments on the day of inspection, and various interesting statistical documents connected with the House of Correction, for which I am indebted to the keeper.

No. 1.—RETURN of OFFICERS and SALARIES in 1836 and 1837, showing the Increase.

Officers in 1836.	Salaries in 1836.			Salaries in 1837.			Increase in 1837.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Governor	500	0	0	500	0	0	.....		
Chaplain	250	0	0	250	0	0	.....		
Surgeon	200	0	0	200	0	0	.....		
Taskmaster	100	0	0	100	0	0	.....		
Two superintendents	135	6	0	160	0	0	24	14	0
Two clerks	130	0	0	130	0	0	.....		
Schoolmaster	52	0	0	52	0	0	.....		
Three turnkeys	171	12	0	171	12	0	.....		
Porter	54	12	0	54	12	0	.....		
Miller	54	12	0	54	12	0	.....		
Baker	54	12	0	54	12	0	.....		
Storekeeper	54	12	0	54	12	0	.....		
Three watchmen	163	16	0	163	16	0	.....		
Sick nurse	.....			54	12	0	54	12	0
Eight guards	.....			374	8	0	374	8	0
Matron	60	0	0	60	0	0	.....		
Three female attendants	103	0	0	103	0	0	.....		
Total, £	2,084	2	0	2,537	16	0	453	14	0

No. 2.—An ACCOUNT of the Distribution of Male Prisoners sleeping in Dormitories and Cells.

No. of Room.		No. of Prisoners.
1	Dormitory	24
2	Ditto	28
9	Day-room or dormitory	10
9	Small ditto ditto	4
10	Ditto ditto	7
10	Large ditto ditto	7
11	Ditto ditto	6
13	Ditto ditto	4
Sleeping in cells		290
Cooks and bakers		5
Sick-room		19
	Total	404

Wakefield House of Correction, 18th November, 1837.

* I regret to state that since the period of my visit, this House of Correction has been visited by a severe epidemic, in the shape of dysentery and fever. The surgeon, in a Report dated April 23, 1838, and made to me upon the subject, says, "That after calling in additional professional assistance, attention immediately was directed to ascertain the probable cause of the disease, and that after a minute examination it was found that in consequence of the inadequate supply of water during the frost, the cleansing and flushing of the sewers had only been imperfectly performed, and that a great part of the filth and ordure had accumulated; this, in connexion with the great atmospherical change that occurred at the time, associated with the dampness of the situation and crowded state of the prison, was, as far as could be ascertained, the cause of the epidemic. Fifty-five cases of fever, and sixty-six of diarrhœa and dysentery, were admitted into the hospitals, in addition to a number of cases of slight indisposition, incapacitating the men from working. It was remarked that the prisoners who slept in cells were more frequently attacked than those who occupied the dormitories. Eleven deaths have been caused by it, nine of fever, two of dysentery. The want of an efficient hospital was severely felt; situated as ours is in the very heart of the building, and destitute of convalescent wards, was found most inconvenient."

No. 3.—DISTRIBUTION and EMPLOYMENT of PRISONERS at the HOUSE of CORRECTION at WAKEFIELD, November 18th, 1837.

MALES.

Offence.	No. in Custody.	Employment.	No.	Name.	Employment.
Felons for trial	43	Mill	90	J. B.	Sweeper.
Ditto convicted	154	Pump	2	W. T.	Ditto.
Vagrants	70	Wool-picking	215	F. M.	Ditto.
Misdemeanants summarily convicted.	82	Combers	13	J. I.	Ditto.
		Shoemakers	9	W. S.	Ditto.
Misdemeanants convicted at sessions.	25	Cloggers	0	J. B. B.	Ditto.
		Tailors	2	C. C.	Ditto.
Bastardy	11	Miller and Baker	2	J. D.	Ditto.
Game Laws	16	Oakum-picking	1	J. H.	Ditto.
Misdemeanants for sessions.	3	Wardsmen	12	J. W.	Ditto.
		Sweepers	17	R. K.	Ditto.
		Cooks	4	T. H.	Ditto.
		Solitary, for prison offences	4	T. M.	Ditto.
		Gas-man and Groom	2	G. B.	Ditto.
		Joiner and Cooper	2	O. H.	Ditto.
		Solitary, by sentence at sessions.	0	W. L.	Ditto.
				J. H.	Ditto.
		Hospital	20	J. H.	Cook.
		Itch Ward	1	J. S.	Ditto.
		Worsted-tying	4	A. M'Kay	Ditto.
		Weaving	1	G. E.	Ditto.
		Whitewashing	3	C. D.	Baker.
				W. B.	Miller.
				R. B.	Groom.
Total	404	Total	404	Z. F.	Gas-man.

FEMALES.

Felons for Trial	10	Washing	9	E. D.	Sweeper.
Convicted Felons	23	Sewing	19	H. M.	Ditto.
Vagrants	22	Wardswomen	6	M. F.	Ditto.
Re-examination	1	Sweepers	3		
Convicted Misdemeanants at sessions.	2	Wool	6		
		Sick Room	6		
Ditto ditto, summarily.	4	Women nursing children	4		
		Knitting	8		
		Shoebinding	1		
Total	62	Total	62		

WARDSMEN.

Name.	Offence.	If in Prison before.	For what Offence.
J. T.	Assault with intent to commit Rape	..	..
J. M.	Convicted Felon	..	..
R. F.	Ditto	..	..
J. P.	Ditto	..	..
J. R.	Ditto	Once	For Assault.
J. E.	Ditto	..	..
J. W.	Ditto	..	..
J. H.	Assault	Once	For Assault.
J. H.	Game Laws	..	..
T. S.	Bastardy	..	..
H. K.	Vagrant	..	..
W. B.	Bastardy	..	..

WARDSWOMEN.

P. L.	Vagrant	..	..
S. M.	Ditto	Once	For Felony.
R. W.	Sessions	..	..
H. K.	Convicted Felon	Once	For Assault.
M. D.	Ditto	Once	For Felony.
B. C.	Convicted Misdemeanant	Twice	Lewd and Disorderly both times.

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Wakefield. House of Correction.

THE MONTHLY NUMBER of PRISONERS Committed to the WAKEFIELD HOUSE of CORRECTION during the Years

Months.	1830.	1831.	1832.	1833.	1834.	1835.	1836.	1837.
January	227	231	264	266	250	201	187	244
February	222	252	228	262	199	183	205	245
March	209	205	219	209	270	167	247	226
April	196	220	224	193	232	175	235	248
May	234	232	233	251	241	164	212	304
June	241	242	218	271	224	203	245	298
July	219	207	97	210	208	160	253	240
August	232	206	152	248	218	187	258	243
September	251	252	241	214	269	183	195	216
October	156	191	278	210	207	184	191	248
November	211	260	215	245	255	221	230	232
December	234	335	255	220	256	236	275	273
Total	2,632	2,833	2,624	2,799	2,829	2,264	2,733	3,017

WAKEFIELD HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

A TABLE showing the EDUCATION of all PRISONERS committed in 1835, 1836, 1837, to Wakefield House of Correction, and the proportion of such who have been previously imprisoned.

	Committed, Unable to Read or Write.		Recommitted, Unable to Read or Write.		Proportion.		Committed, Able to Read or Write.		Recommitted, Able to Read or Write.		Proportion.	
	Males.	Fem.	Males	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.
Felons	703	191	298	53	42·4	27·6	1180	185	459	56	38·9	30·2
Misdemeanants	1156	72	423	26	36·6	36·1	1909	69	634	19	33·2	27·5
Vagrants	715	393	276	177	38·6	45·	1092	349	365	151	33·4	43·2
	2574	656	997	256	38·7	39·	4181	603	1458	226	34·8	37·4

The NUMBER of RECOMMITMENTS to WAKEFIELD HOUSE OF CORRECTION during the following Years:—

Years.	Number Committed.	RECOMMITTED.									
		Number.	Per Cent.	Once.	Per Cent.	Twice.	Per Cent.	Three times.	Per Cent.	Four times.	Per Cent.
1832	2624	1011	38·5	590	22·1	197	7·5	115	4·4	109	4·1
1833	2799	975	34·8	632	22·5	170	6·	106	3·8	67	2·4
1834	2829	1052	37·	621	21·2	268	9·4	85	3·	78	2·7
1835	2264	810	35·7	435	19·2	214	9·4	85	3·7	76	3·3
1836	2733	969	35·4	521	19·06	226	8·2	116	4·2	106	3·8
1837	3017	1158	38·3	652	21·6	233	7·7	120	3·9	153	5·

NOTE.—During the last ten years there have been only four recommitments for two years.

WAKEFIELD HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

A TABLE showing the proportion of PRISONERS PUNISHED to the NUMBER COMMITTED.

Number of Days Prisoners were Confined in the following Years.		PUNISHED.					
		By deprivation of ½ lb. of Bread.	Per Cent.	By Solitary Confinement.	Per Cent.	Total.	Per Cent.
1835	125,925	9687	7·7	1933	1·5	11,620	9·
1836	151,158	6818	4·5	4018	2·6	10,836	7·
1837	177,194	7458	4·2	4034	2·2	11,492	6·4

Wakefield House of Correction.

An Account of the Number of Prisoners sent into the Sick Room, and the Daily Average Number working at each employment, during the Year 1837.

Employment.	Daily Average Number employed.	Number sent into the Sick-room.
Picking Wool	179·	296
Tread-mill	76·	92
Weavers	14·1	27
Sweepers	24·13	27
Wardsmen and Wardswomen	20·	16
Washing	21·6	20
Sewing	20·2	30
Blacksmiths, Joiners, Masons, &c.	4·	2
Shoemakers	10·1	15
Millers and Bakers	2·3	3
Cooks	3·9	2
Pumping	2·2	2
Tailors	2·8	3
Worsted Knitting	8·7	10
Combers	13·	23
Employment not stated	..	38
Oakum Picking	21·2	16
	Total	622

LEEDS.—Borough Gaol.

Leeds. Borough Gaol.

I inspected this prison on the 18th of November, and found it undergoing the process of lime-washing. It was otherwise clean. No alteration has taken place since the last visit. The town council having received notice from the magistrates of the West Riding of their intention to dissolve the existing contract for the lodging and maintenance of the borough prisoners at Wakefield, have come to the resolution of erecting a prison at Leeds. The following is a return of the prisoners present on the day of inspection, and their disposal:—

————, age 20, charged with wounding one William Young, committed to York Castle for trial; in custody 25 days.

————, age 50, father to the above John Batley, charged with assaulting the said William Young; fined 4*l.* 10*s.* for the assault, paid the penalty and discharged; in custody nine days.

————, age 25, charged with forgery; committed to York Castle for trial; in custody nine days.

————, age 15, and ————, age 20, charged with stealing apparel; committed for trial at the sessions; in custody 17 days.

————, age 33, charged with procuring charitable contributions, purporting to be for the widows and orphans of colliers who were lost in a coalpit; committed three calendar months; in custody two days.

————, age 36, charged with having about three pounds weight of cigars in his possession without a permit; discharged with the consent of the Board of Excise; in custody seven days.

I annex returns for a series of years of the number of prisoners detained in the lock-ups in the borough of Leeds, amended from my last report, by subtracting the number of prisoners brought from Wakefield at the period of holding the Quarter Sessions for the Riding and only detained there during trial.

A Return of the Number of Persons who have been in custody in Leeds Borough Gaol, in each Month and Year.

	1816	1817	1818	1819	1820	1821	1822	
January	20	57	68	108	58	110	93	
February	20	49	50	135	91	84	79	
March	20	48	50	83	71	102	89	
April	23	63	56	75	46	95	69	
May	31	66	70	121	98	89	80	Total number in these seven years 6435.
June	16	73	44	82	110	78	79	
July	60	66	46	107	165	81	94	
August	31	92	77	72	97	66	70	
September	22	47	66	65	108	85	93	
October	37	45	74	58	87	61	123	
November	33	53	116	107	125	131	182	
December	51	74	92	87	108	102	130	
	364	733	809	1100	1164	1084	1181	

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Leeds. Borough Gaol.

A RETURN of the NUMBER of PRERSONS who have been in CUSTODY, &c.—*continued.*

	1823	1824	1825	1826	1827	1828	1829	
January	93	149	163	167	189	178	112	
February	131	141	142	158	143	189	172	
March	142	140	172	196	200	206	275	
April	99	127	150	120	179	125	210	Total number in these seven years 13,293, being an increase of 6,858.
May	122	104	120	123	162	162	176	
June	150	132	201	167	181	180	151	
July	169	132	128	163	101	190	186	
August	135	106	127	170	173	159	131	
September	144	122	120	166	140	165	169	
October	124	150	167	176	160	168	196	
November	181	162	170	183	185	139	207	
December	133	147	200	194	227	150	179	
	1623	1612	1860	1983	2040	2011	2164	

	1830	1831	1832	1833	1834	1835	1836	1837	
January	161	182	187	199	188	181	189	234	
February	185	220	178	188	194	219	221	218	
March	173	195	189	281	207	199	242	224	Total number in these seven years 17,184.
April	151	201	175	222	179	167	306	216	
May	168	222	162	250	207	208	343	279	
June	151	153	163	190	234	210	278	269	
July	180	209	153	158	212	225	315	208	Total number in eight years 20,015.
August	158	189	180	188	196	248	297	299	
September	169	185	179	140	155	177	237	210	
October	220	201	153	181	181	187	216	180	
November	201	218	196	253	185	219	257	258	
December	212	264	172	261	219	209	301	236	
	2129	2439	2087	2521	2357	2449	3202	2831	

The keeper says, "There is great difficulty in finding labour for prisoners in this district, which is always increased in times of temporary distress, such as now. There are always fewer drunken and disorderly cases when distress prevails, than when wages are good; there used to be from 30 to 40 generally between Saturday and Monday; the number now, for some time, scarcely exceeds 14 or 15, and on one occasion lately there was not a single prisoner, a case which never happened before. I think the juvenile prisoners are not so numerous as formerly, particularly since the introduction of the patent machine for dressing wool, where one boy now does the work which formerly employed two adults. The prisoners, after committal, are now conveyed to the house of correction at Wakefield in a covered carriage, instead of an open cart, as used to be the practice at the time of the Inspector's last visit."

LANCASHIRE.

Salford, New Bailey. House of Correction.

NEW BAILEY, SALFORD.—HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Inspected this prison on the 31st of October, and subsequent days. I annex a statement of the number and distribution of the prisoners at the time.

CLASSIFICATION and NUMBER of PRISONERS in the NEW BAILEY PRISON, this 31st Day of October, 1837.

Ward No.											
1	Felons and Convicts.	Boys 16 years of age and under, 11, and the 2 wardsmen					13	There are in this Ward	32	One-bedded Cells.	
2	Felons.	Men, first offence	18,	,,	,,		20	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
3	Ditto.	Men, old offenders	22,	,,	,,		24	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
4	Ditto.	Men, first offence	13,	,,	,,		15	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
5	Ditto.	Ditto	15,	,,	,,		17	,, ,,	29	,,	,,
6	Convicts.	Ditto	29,	,,	,,		31	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
7	Ditto.	Men, old offenders	15,	,,	,,		17	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
8	Ditto.	Men, first offence	26,	,,	,,		28	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
9	Ditto.	Ditto	28,	,,	,,		30	,, ,,	32	,,	,,
10	Misdemeanours.	Fines	24,	,,	,,		26	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
11	Ditto.	Neglect of family, Stealing from gardens, Breach of the Articles of War, Deserters					39	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
12	Ditto.	Breach of contract, Fines, Offences against the Excise Laws					42	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
13	Ditto.	Convicted misdemeanors					14	,, ,,	23	,,	,,
14	Sureties.	To answer and keep the peace					53	,, ,,	29	Two-bedded Cells.	
15	Vagrants.	Boys					23	,, ,,	29	,,	,,
16	Ditto.	Men					89	,, ,,	25 Three-bedded Cells and 3 One-bedded ditto.		
17	Bastardy.	Bastardy					10	,, ,,	21 Three-bedded Cells and 3 One-bedded ditto.		
18	Females.	Vagrants					60	,, ,,	10	Two-bedded Cells.	
19	Ditto.	Convicted misdemeanors 19, Lewd Women 0					19	,, ,,	14	,,	,,
20	Ditto.	Felons, first offence					28	,, ,,	9	Three-bedded Cells.	
21	Ditto.	Convicted old offenders 6, Transports 11					17	,, ,,	9	,,	,,
22	Ditto.	Convicts, first offence					18	,, ,,	9	,,	,,
23	Ditto.	Felons, old offenders					4	,, ,,	9	,,	,,
24	Ditto.	Sureties 13, Fines 8					21	,, ,,	29	Two-bedded Cells.	
					Total	. . .	639				

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Salford, New Bailey. House of Correction.

Upon going through the prison, in one of the working rooms a prisoner was detected with tobacco, flint, and steel, and letters neatly fastened round pieces of tile, ready for throwing over the boundary wall. In the day-rooms and cells a variety of improper articles were laying about, such as razors, pieces of iron, implements for gambling, &c., many of the utensils were scored with figures for the latter purpose. In the sleeping-cells many of the apertures for ventilation were stuffed up with rags, or straw. Pens and ink are allowed, without any restriction, in the day-rooms, and idle scribbling on the walls and other places is the consequence. I recommend the withdrawal of the writing materials altogether, they are not only unnecessary, but positively mischievous. Two of the officers are, most improperly, in the habit of permitting their sons to unlock the prisoners in the morning. A much stricter control over the turnkeys than is at present exercised appears to me highly necessary, they never any of them go through the prison passages of a night; one has other business in the town to attend to, in my opinion of a nature quite incompatible with his office. The prisoners, although restricted from seeing their friends, are yet permitted to write letters. I am quite satisfied that extending the prohibition to letters would be beneficial. The under keeper, in evidence, says, "Any prisoner may write when he pleases; we had to examine upwards of 60 letters on one occasion, to seal, and send them to the post. They are generally for supplies of clothing, and articles not permitted to be received in the prison, and the business thus created, and the time expended, is very considerable. Neither the keeper, under keeper, or turnkeys, ever go through the prison of a night. The chapel has been greatly improved, and the accommodation increased by taking in the passage at the back of the gallery. The females are now completely screened from observation, and another entry has been added. It is still wanting in ventilation. I again repeat my recommendation that a separate service should be performed for the females in the chapel on their side of the prison, which would increase the accommodation for the male prisoners, and also confine the women more exclusively to their own quarters, an object most desirable. Soldiers in solitary confinement do not attend Divine service, nor are they visited by the chaplain. On visiting one of these prisoners he requested to be permitted to go to chapel; I recommend most strongly that this should in future be the case, and also that the visits of the chaplain to men in this situation should be frequent. A schoolmistress has been appointed, to instruct the females. Upon examining into the mode pursued by her, and the progress of the scholars, I was by no means satisfied with the one or the other; it was, in fact, nothing more than a sort of desultory reading from one to another, without any attempt at explanation. Several females who it appeared to me most desirable should have been taught the elements of reading, upon being interrogated, replied that they had never been asked. The schoolmistress in evidence says, "The discipline has no tendency to reform them, they obey and that is all. They know nothing of the most common work, even the married women. They have had no opportunity of learning anything of the sort, from being early engaged in the factories. I insert an account of the acquirements and condition of several of the juvenile delinquents, as taken by the chaplain.

October 6, 1837.

S. G.—Age 16; no parents; father 6, mother 11; calico printer; in work; 6*s*. 6*d*.; lives with aunt; gives 5*s*. 6*d*., and he has 1*s*. for clothes; never before; methodist; not read; went to chapel Sunday evening; never in day-time; never drunk; spent his money in sweets and apples; neglect of means of grace, and bad company; spells; cannot say Lord's prayer, Creed, or Commandments; went 3 years to Sunday-school whilst father lived.

O. P..—Age 14; father and mother living; he with them; stiffener; 6*s*. 6*d*.; in work; gives all but 6*d*. to parents; never before; Roman Catholic; goes to school; St. Patrick's chapel in morning and

evening; never drunk; bad company; reads pretty well; says Lord's Prayer, Belief, not the Commandments; does not know what Christ came into this world for.

S. S.—Age 15; mother lives with him; blacksmith; 15*s.* weekly; gives all but 6*d.* to mother; church St. Clements; went to church morning and evening every Sunday; stealing apples; first time; never before; never drinks; spells; bad company.

J. J.—Age 13; mother living; with her; factory; 6*s.* 6*d.*; in work; gives him 1*d.* back; fruit; no drink; Roman Catholic; went to Granby-row morning and evening; not read; spells; says Lord's Prayer, not Belief, or Ten Commandments.

S. J.—Age 12; father and mother; lives with them; factory; 6*s.* 6*d.*; in work; give him 3*d.* fruit; never in drink; Calvinist chapel, every Sunday morning and evening; not read; says Lord's Prayer and Belief; not Commandments; in with father and mother for stealing their lodger's things.

L. J.—Age 17; father and mother; lives with them; rope walk; 7*s.* 6*d.*; in work; they give him 3*d.*; expends it in fruit and books; never spends in drink; Wesleyan Methodists, Irwell street; goes twice a day; never before; says Lord's Prayer, well and devoutly; Commandments; part of Belief.

M. D.—Age 15; father; lives with him; factory; 6*s.* 6*d.*; gives him 2*d.*; in work; picking pockets; stealing apples, twice before; 2 years since; Roman Catholic; not read; twice a day to chapel; says Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Commandments imperfectly; very ignorant.

J. G.—Age 10½; the inspector left him in this place last year; lived by stealing ever since; committed for 3 months 6th September; been in 7 times since; factory; but they will not have him, as they are "frightened on him staling spinner's cloaz;" learnt to read in Birmingham; Roman Catholic; reads indifferently; says Lord's Prayer imperfectly; Creed; Commandments imperfectly; spent money in bread and lodging; not drink; Irish; 8 years; in Manchester 4 years; never at chapel since in Manchester.

S. J.—Age 14; mother and stepfather; turned him out 6 months; turned him out because he got bagged; not been in work since; lived with grandmother; had 4*s.* 6*d.*; gave him 1*d.*; Irish; Roman Catholic; says Lord's Prayer and Creed; not Commandments; could not read before he came here; grandmother taught him; Sunday-school, Bury-street, 3 months; only worked 4 months; been here 7 times; 2 years since; in Manchester 5 years.

W. W.—Age 13; father transported for life, 7 years since; mother sent to Lancaster 9 weeks since, for 2 years; been here 3 times; 2 years since first; rope walk, used to earn 2*s.* 1*d.*; no home; lives at Angel Meadow, pays 2*d.* a night; no wages; not read; father a Roman Catholic; he nothing; says Lord's Prayer and Creed imperfectly; says Lord's Prayer, and then blesses himself, and crosses himself; does not drink.

M. J.—Age 14; father lives in Salford; he with him; rope walk; 3*s.* 6*d.*; gets 2*d.* for apples; works at ironmonger's; Methodist; Irwell-street chapel; fourth time; 3 months now; 3 weeks to stay on Tuesday; in work; not read; Sunday-school 3 years; says Lord's Prayer, Creed, Commandments, well.

G. G.—Age 16; father and step-mother; lives with them; factory; 6*s.* 8*d.*; 2*d.* for apples; in work; suspicion of picking pockets; third time; first, 3 years since; at St. John's church 2 years since; went to Sunday-school 5 years; cannot read Testament; says Lord's Prayer, Creed, Commandments; parents go to no worship.

G. J.—Age 18; born "Peterloo time;" father and mother living; lives with them; fustian cutter; works with his father; allows him 1*s.*; never spent money in drink; first time, 6 weeks; Sunday school 6 weeks since; sometimes to chapel; has not practised Lord's Prayer lately, nor Creed, nor Commandments; father goes to chapel every Monday night, and is a Tee-totaler; cannot read Testament; had a large quantity of pigeons; had 2 sovereigns when he came in.

J. W.—Age 15; father and step-mother; Jackson's Row; lives with them; errand boy at an engraver's; 6*s.* 9*d.*; gets 5*d.* for apples, &c; out of work a good while; second time; first, 7 weeks since; 2 months; 5 weeks to stay; reads imperfectly; says Lord's Prayer; Creed imperfectly; not Commandments; father and mother go to no place of worship; Irish; has been sometimes to church and sometimes to chapel; very ignorant of first principles.

G. I.—Age 15; mother lives Newton-lane; with her; fourth time; sleeping out; step-father drives him out; go to no worship; Sunday-school; church; spells; factory; 5*s.* 8*d.*; in work; 2*d.* for apples, books, or clothes; not in drink; holds a candle on Saturday nights for butchers, gets 3*d.*; says Lord's Prayer imperfectly; Creed imperfectly; some of Commandments.

Several beneficial regulations have been adopted since my last visit, namely, restricting he females from passing to and fro to the hospital; the withdrawal of the female servants at the lodge; the discontinuance of the allowance of bread to the wardsmen, although they still have extra meat twice a week. I again repeat my recommendation for the abolition of all allowances and earnings to convicted prisoners. The establishment has been increased by the appointment of a task-master, who, being 76 years of age, is I fear, from infirmity, little calculated for effective service. The excellent health of the large population of this prison is remarkable; on an average of 700 prisoners a day for the quarter, the number in hospital has been no greater than 5. It is, however, necessary to state, that no prisoners are committed here for a longer period than six months. A hospital diet has been laid down by the surgeon on the following scale.

HOSPITAL DIET.

Breakfast.

Men.—A pint of gruel.
Women.—A pint of weak tea. } and ¼ lb. white bread.

Dinner.—Males and Females.

Sunday.—{A pint of broth, from ¼ lb. mutton; with meal; Quarter pound of bread.
Monday.—A pint of rice-milk and bread.

Tuesday.—Same as Sunday.
Wednesday.—A pint of Sago milk and bread.
Thursday.—Same as Sunday.
Friday.—Same as Monday.
Saturday.—Same as Sunday.

Supper.—Males and Females.

A pint of gruel and bread.

October 31, 1837.

I annex a return of deaths during the year.

DEATHS from October, 1836, to October, 1837.

No.		Age.	
1.	Male Convict.	22	Common continued fever.
2.	Female Misdemeanant	28	Decline. (Drink!)
3.	Male ditto	24	Influenza.
4.	Female ditto	19	Chronic disease of lungs, (Girl of the town.)
5.	Do. Convict	18	Pulmonary consumption. ditto
6.	Male ditto	19	Inflammation of lungs.
7.	Do. ditto	51	Decline.
8.	Female Vagrant	26	Do. (Drink!)
9.	Male Convict.	23	Intestinal disease. Chronic.
10.	Do. Misdemeanant.	44	Decline.
11.	Do. Convict	25	Consumption.
12.	Female Transport	25	Intestinal disease; long standing.

The surgeon in one of his quarterly reports says, "It is a melancholy fact that habits of intemperance have been equally the cause of death and disease as of crime." I extract the following pleasing but well merited testimonials from the surgeon's journal; being letters addressed to him by prisoners on their recovery.

SIR,

I wish to return you thanks for the benefit I have received from your kind attention during my late illness,

Hospital, February 22nd, 1837. M. B. Manchester.

SIR, *New Bailey, May 3rd*, 1837.

I cannot leave this place without expressing a deep sense of the obligation under which I am laid to you for the kind and prompt attention you have paid to me during one of the most painful afflictions I ever felt or endured. If you will have the goodness to accept of my sincere thanks for the benefits I have received at your hands since I have become afflicted, it will much oblige

Yours sincerely,

J. G.

SIR,

I desire to return my most sincere thanks for the cure you have made in me; and if it had not been for your kindly interference I should have been a dead man, and had I died in that state I should have lost both my soul and body. I am, &c,

September 28th, 1837. J. W.

The only variation to be noticed under the head of labour is the more general employment of the women in pin heading. A great quantity of the stock provided having been made away with by the prisoners, and wantonly thrown into the privies; the visiting justices have employed a female superintendant, conversant with the process. The following is an account of the prisoners' earnings, and the cost of provisions, from October 1836, to October 1837.

Amount of Prisoners' Earnings, and Cost of Provisions consumed in the New Bailey Prison, from October up to January Sessions, 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
Gross amount of Earnings	107	15	6
Cash paid prisoners discharged	57	9	5
Balance in favour of the Hundred	50	6	1
The Total Cost of Provisions consumed in this Quarter, was	433	8	$1\frac{1}{2}$

This Quarter contained 11 weeks.

The cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per Week in the early part of the Quarter, was 1 $4\frac{2}{64}$, and of a Female, $11\frac{3}{64}$.

Cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 20oz. each.	at $\frac{6}{4}d.$ per lb.	0	$8\frac{8}{64}$
$31\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Meal	at 37*s.* 0*d.* per load	0	$3\frac{4}{64}$
5 lbs. of Potatoes	at 9*s.* 4*d.* ditto	0	$2\frac{2}{64}$
1 pint of Pease.	at 6*s.* 3*d.* per bushel	0	$1\frac{1}{64}$
$3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Salt	at 1*s.* ditto	0	$0\frac{8}{64}$
1 lb. of Beef		0	$2\frac{8}{64}$
1 quart of Stew		0	$0\frac{2}{64}$
		1	$7\frac{2}{64}$

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Salford, New Bailey. House of Correction.

Cost of maintaining a Female Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 16 oz. each,	at $\frac{63}{64}$d. each	0	$6\frac{50}{64}$
$15\frac{3}{4}$ oz. of Meal	at 37s. 0d. per load	0	$1\frac{53}{64}$
7 lbs. of Potatoes	at 9s. 4d. ditto	0	$3\frac{17}{64}$
$3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Salt	at 1s. per bushel	0	$0\frac{3}{64}$
7 Pints of Stew		0	$2\frac{40}{64}$
		1	$2\frac{25}{64}$

Amount of Prisoners' Earnings, and Cost of Provisions consumed in the New Bailey Prison, from January up to April Sessions, 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
Gross amount of Earnings	125	17	8
Cash paid Prisoners discharged	49	4	8
Balance in favour of the Hundred	76	13	0
The Total Cost of Provisions consumed in this Quarter, was	659	19	$4\frac{1}{4}$

This Quarter contained 13 weeks.

The cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per Week in the early part of the quarter, was 1 $7\frac{10}{64}$, and of a Female, 1 $2\frac{25}{64}$.

Cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 20 oz. each	at $1\frac{14}{64}$d. per lb.	0	$10\frac{48}{64}$
$31\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Meal	at 38s. 6d. per load	0	$3\frac{50}{64}$
5 lbs. of Potatoes	at 9s. 4d. ditto	0	$2\frac{31}{64}$
1 pint of Pease	at 7s. per bushel	0	$1\frac{30}{64}$
1 lb. of Beef.		0	$3\frac{39}{64}$
1 quart of Stew		0	$0\frac{48}{64}$
		1	$10\frac{25}{64}$

Cost of maintaining a Female Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 16 oz. each.	at $1\frac{14}{64}$d. each	0	$8\frac{34}{64}$
$15\frac{3}{4}$ oz. of Meal	at 38s. 6d. per load	0	$1\frac{58}{64}$
7 lbs. of Potatoes	at 9s. 4d. ditto	0	$3\frac{17}{64}$
$3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Salt	at 1s. per bushel	0	$0\frac{9}{64}$
7 Pints of Stew.		0	$2\frac{40}{64}$
		1	$4\frac{24}{64}$

Amount of Prisoners' Earnings, and Cost of Provisions consumed in the New Bailey Prison, from April up to July Sessions, 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
Gross amount of Earnings	159	5	11
Cash paid Prisoners discharged	69	0	9
Balance in favour of the Hundred	90	5	2
The Total Cost of Provisions in this Quarter, was	668	18	$5\frac{3}{4}$

This Quarter contained 12 weeks.

The cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per Week in the early part of the Quarter, was 1 $10\frac{25}{64}$, and of a Female, 1 $4\frac{24}{64}$.

Cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 20 oz. each.	at $\frac{59}{64}$d. per lb.	0	$8\frac{2}{64}$
$31\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Meal	at 30s. 9d. per load	0	$2\frac{63}{64}$
5 lbs. of Potatoes.	at 9s. 4d. ditto	0	$2\frac{21}{64}$
1 pint of Pease	at 5s. 9d. per bushel	0	$1\frac{5}{64}$
$3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Salt	at $10\frac{1}{2}$d. ditto	0	$0\frac{3}{64}$
1 lb. of Beef.		0	3
1 quart of Stew		0	$0\frac{48}{64}$
		1	$6\frac{14}{64}$

Cost of maintaining a Female Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 16 oz. each.	at $\frac{59}{64}$d. each	0	$6\frac{29}{64}$
$15\frac{3}{4}$ oz. of Meal	at 30s. 9d. per load	0	$1\frac{31}{64}$
7 lbs. of Potatoes	at 9s. 4d. ditto	0	$3\frac{17}{64}$
$3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Salt	at $10\frac{1}{2}$d. per bushel	0	$0\frac{3}{64}$
7 pints of Stew		0	$2\frac{40}{64}$
		1	$1\frac{56}{64}$

Amount of Prisoners' Earnings, and Cost of Provisions consumed in the New Bailey Prison, from July up to October Sessions.

	£.	s.	d.
Gross amount of Earnings	204	9	6½
Cash paid Prisoners discharged	91	18	0
Balance in favour of the Hundred	112	11	6½
The Total Cost of Provisions consumed in this Quarter, was	819	4	10¼

This Quarter contained 16 weeks.

The cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per Week in the early part of the Quarter, was 1 $6\frac{14}{64}$, and of a Female, 1 $1\frac{56}{64}$.

Cost of maintaining a Male Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 20 oz. each.	at $\frac{55}{64}$*d.* per lb.	0	$7\frac{38}{64}$
31½ oz. of Meal	at 31*s.* 3*d.* per load	0	$3\frac{8}{64}$
5 lbs. of Potatoes	at 9*s.* 4*d.* ditto	0	$2\frac{21}{64}$
1 pint of Peas	at 5*s.* 8*d.* per bushel	0	$1\frac{4}{64}$
3½ oz. of Salt	at 10½d. ditto	0	$0\frac{3}{64}$
1 lb. of Beef		0	$2\frac{56}{64}$
1 quart of Stew		0	$0\frac{48}{64}$
		1	$5\frac{29}{64}$

Cost of maintaining a Female Prisoner per week in the latter part of the Quarter.

		s.	d.
7 Loaves of Bread, of 16 oz. each.	at $\frac{55}{64}$*d.* each	0	$6\frac{1}{64}$
15¾ oz. of Meal	at 31*s.* 3*d.* per load	0	$1\frac{28}{64}$
7 lbs. of Potatoes	at 9*s.* 4*d.* ditto	0	$3\frac{17}{64}$
3½ oz. of Salt	at 10½*d.* per bushel	0	$0\frac{3}{64}$
7 Pints of Stew		0	$2\frac{40}{64}$
		1	$1\frac{39}{64}$

The increase of prisoners during the last year in this establishment has, I regret to say, been very considerable, but may be ascribed in some degree to the pressure on the manufacturing class. I feel more at a loss to account for the remarkable and progressive augmentation in the number of the females. In December, 1833, the numbers were 93: in July, 1837, they were 225. The matron says, "On the 3d of July we had 225 females; they were obliged to sleep five in a cell. I am sure the dram-shops are the cause. They are taken up by the police when drunk, and having been once here are noted as irregular characters, and there is quite an end of them; for they say that if they are only walking the street, or going on an errand, they are brought in here."

I recommend again to the magistrates the suggestions contained in the Inspectors' Report of this prison for the last year; and, in addition thereto, am of opinion that the perquisites arising from the straw, &c., claimed by the under-keeper, should be credited to the county, and commuted for by an increase of salary; likewise, that his living within the prison is desirable, and that in an establishment of this magnitude the chaplain also should be a resident.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PRISONERS committed to the NEW BAILEY, SALFORD, from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837, and the Number of Recommittals for the same period.

Committed	7,183.		
Recommitted	Once before		1,177
,,	Twice before		571
,,	Thrice before		334
,,	Four or more		500
	Total		2,582

The NUMBER of PRISONERS Tried and Convicted at the NEW BAILEY COURT-HOUSE, SALFORD, in the following Years.

Years.	Male Felons.	Convicted.	Female Felons.	Convicted.	Misdemeanors.	Convicted.	Total Tried.
1794	92	62	41	17	17	12	150
1795	57	41	43	33	20	8	120
1796	92	60	48	26	37	13	177
1797	91	54	62	38	54	7	207
1798	117	74	55	36	83	30	255
1799	102	64	58	34	172	43	332
1800	164	97	93	64	184	44	441
1801	190	131	72	55	190	63	452
1802	128	85	66	52	86	83	280
1803	133	98	67	51	111	45	311
1804	97	63	55	33	92	36	244

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Salford, New Bailey. House of Correction.

The Number of Prisoners Tried and Convicted, &c.—(*continued.*)

Years.	Male Felons.	Convicted.	Female Felons.	Convicted.	Misdemeanors.	Convicted.	Total Tried.
1805	80	60	63	42	109	36	252
1806	80	58	37	29	137	55	254
1807	76	58	57	43	175	55	308
1808	105	67	69	54	67	54	241
1809	123	92	70	52	48	43	241
1810	114	92	64	54	55	48	233
1811	145	121	67	56	64	63	276
1812	160	114	97	62	45	41	302
1813	194	147	106	88	65	60	365
1814	208	157	112	85	93	75	413
1815	254	194	110	101	133	126	497
1816	322	266	94	84	136	129	552
1817	581	482	149	135	128	121	858
1818	553	503	150	138	111	101	814
1819	545	498	167	160	126	116	838
1820	589	537	136	122	181	164	906
1821	587	532	107	94	84	76	778
1822	579	530	129	123	99	88	807
1823	538	472	130	113	103	98	771
1824	647	583	176	158	95	75	918
1825	677	589	223	212	93	65	993
1826	755	672	158	148	109	96	1022
1827	710	606	176	142	97	74	983
1828	594	531	154	123	113	97	861
1829	720	631	163	142	115	97	998
1830	599	509	151	119	92	80	842
1831	709	595	174	138	117	103	1000
1832	759	664	159	147	188	157	1106
1833	660	558	175	115	100	97	935
1834	754	644	195	171	163	137	1112
1835	723	608	213	187	123	73	1059
1836	680	572	234	203	117	96	1031
1837	915	785	253	214	145	119	1313
						Total .	26,848

Transported, { Males . . 3169 } Total . . 3606.
{ Females. . 437 }

Total committed from 22d January, 1794, to the 6th January, 1838. . 94,340.

Inspected the lock-ups adjoining the prison—found them clean. The stoves do not appear to be safe, considering the helpless condition from drink in which many of these prisoners are sent in. Warming by hot air or some other process would be greatly preferable.

A RETURN of the NUMBER of PRISONERS in the Lock-ups for safe Custody, summarily Convicted and for Trial, from the 23d October, 1836, to the 7th January, 1837, both Days inclusive.

Safe Custody.	Summary Convictions.	For Trial.
2484	765	295

A like RETURN, from January 8th to April 8th, 1837, both Days inclusive.

Safe Custody.	Summary Convictions.	For Trial.
3085	1232	350

A like RETURN, from April 9th to July 1st, 1837, both Days inclusive.

Safe Custody.	Summarily Convicted.	For Trial.
3572	1471	397

A like RETURN, from July 2d to October 22d, 1837, both days inclusive.

Safe Custody.	Summarily Convicted.	For Trial.
4591	2139	423

TOTALS.		
13,732	5607	1465

KIRKDALE.—COUNTY GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION FOR SOUTH LANCASHIRE.

Kirkdale. County Gaol and House of Correction.

I inspected this prison on the 10th of November and subsequent days. It still remains in the same, if not a more discreditable condition, than at the period of my last visit, as described in the Inspectors' Report, 1837, page 61. The state of the prison, as to numbers and classification on the day of inspection, will be found in the subjoined Return.

Kirkdale Gaol, 10th November, 1837.

RETURN of PRISONERS this Day in Custody.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under sentence of transportation	12	5	17
,, ,, of imprisonment from sessions	84	18	102
,, ,, of imprisonment from assize	22	4	26
Misdemeanors convicted	5	4	9
Summary Convictions	36	6	42
Committed for want of sureties	11	..	11
,, for trial at sessions	3	..	3
,, for trial at assize	15	3	18
,, under the Vagrant Act	134	..	134
,, by court martial	..	..	..
,, for further examination	..	..	..
Children	..	3	3
	322	43	365

In Hospital.

Males	6
Females	4
Total	10

CLASSIFICATION.

Class.		Number.	
	FEMALES.		
1	Summary convictions	6	
2	First offences, convicted	21	
3	Old offences, convicted	1	No. 5.
4	Transports	5	Two large rooms, equal to 4 cells each.
5	Children	3	33 large cells, to contain 3 prisoners each.
6	Old offenders for trial	..	Two extra large cells, to contain 4 prisoners each.
7	Bailable offences	..	The above are set apart for the female prisoners.
8	Misdemeanors convicted	4	
9	Vagrants	..	
	Assize prisoners for trial	3	
		43	
	MALES.		
10	Under the Vagrant Act	134	
11	Bailable offences	11	
12	Summary convictions	36	
13	Boys, 1st offences, convicted	5	
14	Boys, 1st offences, trial	..	
15	Men, 1st offences, trial	3	

Classification—(*continued.*)

Class.		Number.
	Males.	
16	Men, 2d offences, trial	..
17	Men, old offences, convicted and transports .	27
18	Boys, old offences, trial	..
19	Misdemeanors convicted	5
20	Men, 1st offences, convicted	86
21	Boys, old offences, convicted	..
	Assize prisoners for trial	15
	Males . . .	322
	Females . .	43
	Total . . .	365

I proceed to extract from notes and evidence further particulars illustrative of the continued mismanagement of this establishment.

Extract from Inspector's Notes, 10th November, 1837.

Upon entering the prison, and going towards the tread-wheels, while still at a distance, I heard the prisoners in loud conversation, and even after my appearance, and in the presence of the watchman, it was not discontinued. Upon inspecting the prisoners at the wheel several of them appeared in the most filthy state; their legs and feet encrusted with dirt. One, upon being reproached with it, said there was no soap in the ward, which, upon inquiry, proved not to be true. One prisoner was occupied, close to the boundary wall, in saturating straw with filthy water for the purpose of converting it into manure: upon examination, he said, that with four or five others, about three or four weeks ago, he was employed to carry manure into the keeper's field upon the outside of the prison. The keeper appeared to doubt this, and called one of the turnkeys, who fully established the fact; the same being in opposition to the orders of the visiting justices. Upon going through the sleeping cells, I found many of them dirty, with the apertures for ventilation closed up with dirty rags and straw. Many improper articles were lying about them, and there were evident marks of candles being used by the prisoners; several wicks partly consumed, and a rudely-constructed lamp were found. While engaged in this examination, the smell of tobacco was strongly perceptible; and, upon descending into a day room, it was evident the prisoners had been smoking, though all denied it. I requested the keeper to order the prisoners into the yard and cause them to be searched, and also the various places of concealment in the day-rooms, the result of which was, the discovery of implements for gambling, numerous pipes, tinder-boxes, tobacco, and money. In another day-room a quantity of coffee was boiling on the fire, and, upon being questioned, the prisoner said that "it had come over the wall." Going into the day-room set apart for the boys, I discovered a number of counters and draughts cut out of the county leather, to be used for gambling; and upon the prisoner placed in charge of this class being searched, tobacco and a leather thong for punishing the boys were found on him. Suspecting that the tobacco in such general use might be introduced through the means of the cooks I proceeded to examine them in the cooking-house. No tobacco, and only one pipe was detected; newspapers were, however, lying carelessly about, which were claimed by one of the turnkeys as his property. In the workshops tobacco-smoking was also going forward, and they were likewise in an untidy and neglected state. Proceeding to the ward for the untried, it appeared that the prisoners who had been convicted at the sessions, above a week since, had not been removed to the house of correction to undergo their sentences. Those sentenced to hard labour were remaining in idleness, and in companionship with prisoners committed for trial. Tobacco, it seems, is permitted to be used by the wardsmen in the hospital, a liberty I have found granted in no other prison. The reception cells at the gate are still occupied by prisoners as lodgemen, and were in a disorderly and dirty condition. The turnkey in charge of the keys and of the outer gate is allowed by the keeper, but without the sanction or knowledge of the magistrates, to sleep out of the prison, and his son, a youth hardly 21 years of age, to take his place."

The following are extracts from the evidence of the officers: ————, joiner to the prison. "No prisoners now work out of the prison. Since the Inspector was last here, prisoners have been out with manure in the morning; they have gone into the field opposite the keeper's house door. I have only a man and boy employed in my business. I have seen the numerous marks of candles in the cells. I have not thought it my duty to report it. I thought it very odd. I have taken the fragments of old iron and nails away when I have found them." Turnkey ————. "I have detected two small lots of tobacco coming over the wall. The prisoners to obtain articles thrown over near the mill must get over the gates of the cages. The prisoners are generally as noisy at the wheel as when the Inspector noticed it. There is an idea among the prisoners that they can obtain offices in the prison, such as that of cook, for money; I have heard them say so. Lights have been detected in the cells after locking up." Turnkey ————. "Lights have been seen from the keeper's house in the cells of a night, and he has sent down to us. There is only one officer who does not use tobacco in the prison. I have in the untried ward 13 prisoners convicted last

sessions, who have not been sent to the convicted side, nor at hard labour, according to their sentences. There were 20 this morning, when Inspector visited, seven have gone since dinner. They might certainly have gone at once from the Court House, but I could not do it without an order from the keeper; they are longer this time than ever they were before, but are generally a few days." ————, miller.—"I do not reside in the prison, but come in daily at about eight o'clock in the morning. ————, is the man who assists in the mill. He is a convicted prisoner. I take the key away with me of a night. I have lost flour out of the mill, as much as three score and 17 lbs. I found it out by a track through the trap over the large wheels, when I went down to grease them. I found a quantity of dirt on the top, and I said to myself, what is all this dirt. One morning, I had noticed some flour in a different state from what I left it, and thought I would lay something over the trap-door the next evening, and see if it was removed. I went home at the usual time, and came back at locking-up, and found the chisel I had laid there was removed. The track of footsteps was plainly to be seen; I made no complaint to any body of it. I told ————, one of the turnkeys of it, and he found a cake made from flour in the pocket of one of the prisoners at the cook-house, a little time afterwards. I smoke tobacco myself in the prison in the day time. I have lately, within a week, seen the prisoners smoking while on the wheels, two or three at a time. It is not at all extraordinary to see them. They strike a light against the stones. It is not my duty, and I do not interfere." The turnkey alluded to respecting the robbery of the flour says, "A week ago the miller told me he had been robbed. I found a piece of cake in the pocket of a man's jacket who had gone out. I did not report it to the keeper, nor does he know of it to this day." Upon questioning the keeper, it appears that the first information he received of this considerable robbery was from the Inspector.

Under the head of moral and religious instruction, as regards the personal labours of the chaplain, his duties are performed with the most exemplary zeal and exactitude. The prisoner, noticed in my former report as being attached to his domestic establishment, has been discontinued. He says, in evidence, "The smell of tobacco is strongly perceptible in the chapel at divine service. The conduct of the prisoners in chapel cannot be found fault with. The general discipline is not improved." It appears, upon reference to the chaplain's journal, that reading of prayers is occasionally dispensed with, either in consequence of the weather or the engagements of the keeper. The chaplain states, "That he is always ready; that a bell communicates with his house, which, when rung, is to signify that the prisoners will not attend divine service." Whenever the chaplain is prevented from being present, prayers are read by the chapel clerk. I annex several extracts from the chaplain's journal.

"1st January, 1837.—E. A. was brought up a Roman Catholic, and, having lately read her Bible, has become convinced of her former errors. E. A. was soon afterwards discharged, and, in a few days, was recommitted on a charge of felony. The constable said she was an incurable drunkard, and was intoxicated when she committed the felony.

"26th March.—D. is very impatient with me, since his sentence, to represent him to the judge as a clergyman, and unfit for the degrading punishment of the tread-wheel. I refused to make any such application, but inclosed a statement from the prisoner to Mr. Baron Alderson, stating that I was ignorant in every respect of its truth. His offences have been,—passing a forged bill, 10th July 1834, 376*l.* 12*s.*; another, 11th July 1835, 486*l.* 17*s.* and attempting to pass one for 11,347*l.* 12*s.*

"Monday, 3d April.—Saw several prisoners lately convicted at the assizes, and especially D., sentenced, for three successive forgeries, to transportation for life and two years' previous imprisonment with hard labour. He is very anxious to have the former part of his sentence reversed, on the ground that he is a clergyman. He states that he was educated at Harrow, took his M. A. degree at Oxford of Exeter College, and that he was admitted deacon by the present Bishop of Gloucester, his title being a cure or chaplaincy in Canada; that he passed to the United States, and was ordained priest by Bishop Inglis in the summer of 1831, and has, for three years, held a living in North America. He will not allow me to inquire of the proper authorities whether he was really ordained, as he says, by Dr. Monk, of Gloucester, though this is the only sure and immediate way of establishing his veracity.

"Saturday, 22d.—A gentleman from London, accompanied by ——, came yesterday to the magistrates' room, and spoke of his certain knowledge that D. was a returned convict.*

"25th April.—G., who, as well as D., is in irons for an attempt to escape by breaking through the wall of their cell, informs me that the weapon found in the straw of his bed belongs to D., and that he had concealed it for the purpose of destroying himself, and that the hole begun in the wall was made by D. for the purpose of concealing tea and sugar. When I said I did not believe him, he said D. had told him so, and persisted in this impertinent explanation, which he had requested the opportunity of giving me. He has been before convicted at Manchester.

"10th June.—Received a letter from ——, who informs me that the Bishop of Gloucester never ordained D.

"22d June.—The sister of D.'s wife has informed a lady, who formerly visited the prison, that he had a wife living when he married a second time; that he acquired his property in North America by personating a man of the same name, who was advertised for as heir to an estate; he officiated as clergyman on his passage, and in a church at New York.

"8th June.—Called on the wife of ——, in order to inform her of the sorrow he expresses for his misconduct, and of his upright and exemplary conduct whilst attending the hospital, where he narrowly escaped death from fever caught in his attendance there. I called also on several gentlemen, who his wife thought would befriend him, but most of them were

* He was transported for life from London, in 1832, for uttering a forged bill to a large amount to Manton, the gun-maker, was sent out in the ship "Surrey" to Van Diemen's Land, and made his escape from that settlement.

III.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Kirkdale. County Gaol and House of Correction.

absent. It seems very difficult to procure him any situation suitable to his wishes and habits, he having been brought up as book-keeper in a merchant's office.

"13th July: County Sessions.—During these days I paid frequent visits to the prison, and saw the sick and friends of some prisoners. Especially assisted the father of ——, age 14, who had come to attend his son's trial, unprovided with the means of subsistence. The boy was acquitted and went home with his father."

School.—The boys attend the school from 9 to 12, and from 2 to 4. The daily average number attending is from 18 to 19: the largest number at one time, 29; the lowest number, 8. The names of the boys are entered weekly in a register arranged under the following heads: Number—age—when admitted—discharged—name—how employed—and class in school—

Conduct during the week.

S | M | T | W | T | F | S | .

Health.—The surgeon being on leave of absence, I had no opportunity of acquainting myself of the state of health in the prison. I find he does not attend corporal punishments. The following is a return of the deaths between October 1836 and October 1837 :—

1837.	Names.	Age.	Diseases.
March 2	J. D.	60	Exhaustion.
April 7	J. R.	57	Typhus.
„ 13	B. R.	52	Ditto.
„ 26	S. M.	55	Exhaustion.
July 6	J. P.	21	Pulmonary Consumption.
„ 22	J. G.	22	Ditto.
September 24. . .	A. C.	40	Ditto.
„ 29. . .	T. S.	30	Dropsy of the Chest.
October 27 . . .	S. O.	13	General Dropsy.

Accounts.—I find the same meritorious simplicity and accuracy in keeping the accounts of this prison by the steward or accountant as noticed in the Report of last year. The annexed return, prepared by him, shows, for a stated period, the monthly disbursements and receipts of the establishment, with the number of prisoners received from the borough of Liverpool under contract.

A STATEMENT of the Number of Prisoners confined in the County Gaol and House of Correction at Kirkdale in each Month of the Year ending 31st of May, 1837; showing the Number of Crown Prisoners, and those sent under Contract from the Boroughs of Liverpool and Wigan, during the same period; with the Gross Amount of Expenditure Monthly, the Amount paid for Food monthly, and the Amount paid for each particular description of Food during the Year, and continued to the 1st of December, 1837, of the current Year.

	Total Number of Prisoners in Custody each Month.	Total Number of Crown Prisoners.	Total Number of Liverpool Prisoners.	Total Number of Wigan Prisoners.	Total Amount paid for these respective descriptions of food for the Year.	Total Amount Paid Monthly.			Amount paid for Food in each Month.		
					£. s. d.	£.	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1836.											
June . . .	8,049	750	129	..	Bread . . 667 0 3½	300	7	7	87	6	3
July	8,171	897	1,463	18	Beef . . . 229 17 11	350	12	7½	109	18	3
August . . .	7,670	1,042	2,289	106	Oatmeal. . 216 6 9	439	10	2	79	16	9
September . .	8,458	1,027	2,996	339	Potatoes . 221 11 0	376	8	8	75	19	10½
October . . .	8,802	786	3,596	527	Bacon . . 102 8 8	308	18	5	108	5	10
November . .	9,492	1,005	4,244	642	Beef Heads . 44 17 11	606	17	9½	188	15	7
December . .	11,411	1,263	5,460	580	Salt . . . 5 13 0	431	9	8	178	6	3
1837.					Pepper . . 2 17 8						
January . . .	12,699	1,570	6,251	597	. . . .	463	10	4	118	13	10
February . .	11,118	1,665	5,583	492	. . . .	664	0	0½	145	10	6
March . . .	12,384	2,058	6,090	591	. . . .	390	11	9½	93	19	0
April . . .	11,980	1,619	6,047	483	. . . .	573	14	3	197	1	5
May	12,047	1,423	5,992	563	. . . .	990	6	1	106	19	8
	122,281	15,085	50,140	4,938							
General average daily . . .	335 $\frac{6}{365}$	41 $\frac{24}{73}$	137 $\frac{37}{73}$	13 $\frac{193}{365}$	Total . £1,490 13 2½	5,896	7	5	1,490	13	2½
1837.					£. s. d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
June . . .	11,322	1,620	4,365	650	Bread . . 455 11 7½	480	8	0½	190	11	3½
July	11,414	1,769	3,986	881	Beef . . . 139 0 0	332	5	2½	145	13	4
August . . .	10,283	1,671	3,631	830	Oatmeal . 148 5 10	596	1	6½	212	8	4½
September . .	9,839	1,297	3,577	691	Potatoes. . 98 7 8½	352	13	9	115	0	7
October . . .	10,872	1,274	4,108	816	Bacon . . 69 19 7	421	8	6	137	19	1
November . .	11,001	1,356	4,226	699	Beef heads . 29 14 2	516	11	6	144	17	5
					Salt . . . 3 6 0						
	64,731	8,987	23,893	4,567	Pepper . . 2 5 2						
General average daily . . .	353 $\frac{132}{183}$	49 $\frac{20}{183}$	130 $\frac{103}{183}$	24 $\frac{171}{183}$	Total . . £946 10 1	2,699	8	6½	946	10	1

Received for maintenance, year ending 31st of May, 1837 :—

	£.	s.	d.
From the treasurer of the county of Lancaster for crown prisoners .	320	1	9
From the treasurer of the borough of Liverpool for its prisoners . .	994	7	2
From the treasurer of the borough of Wigan for ditto	110	7	1
	£1,424	16	0

	£.	s.	d.
Received to 1st of December of the current year:—*			
From the treasurer of the county of Lancaster for crown prisoners	701	15	1
From the treasurer of the borough of Liverpool for its prisoners	1,292	10	7
From the treasurer of the borough of Wigan for ditto	144	16	8
	£2,139	2	4

Kirkdale. County Gaol and House of Correction.

There has been committed to the Kirkdale prison from the borough of Liverpool, in the year ending 31st of May 1837, 970 prisoners; of these, 52 are sessions' convictions, and 918 summary convictions.

Of the 52 sessions' convictions:—

4	are for 2	years.
16	„ 1	year.
1	„ 9	months.
1	„ 8	ditto.
15	„ 6	ditto.
5	„ 4	ditto.
4	„ 3	ditto.
1	„ 2	ditto.
4	„ 1	ditto.
1	discharged after 5 days.	
52		

Of 918 summary convictions:—

357	are for 3	months.
90	„ 2	ditto.
255	„ 1	ditto.
12	„ 6	weeks.
1	„ 5	ditto.
23	„ 3	ditto.
119	„ 14	days.
10	„ 10	ditto.
16	„ 8	ditto.
28	„ 7	ditto.
5	„ 5	ditto.
2	„ 4	ditto.
970		

The use of irons has been discontinued since my last visit, and the walls of the airing yards nearest the females have been raised. The female prisoners are so few in number as scarcely to require notice. The portion of the prison appropriated to them was extremely clean, and they appear to be carefully attended to by the matron.

In the keeper's journal I find the following minute, recording an inconvenience which has been a subject of much complaint in this establishment:—

"25th August, 1837.—I am at times greatly annoyed by persons at the outside throwing things over the walls. On Tuesday three men were observed to get out of a coach at the west corner near the gate near the court house; they walked to the north-west corner near the tread-mill, and threw over some tobacco and bacon. A man coming by said he would inform the gate-keeper; he did so, but before the officers could get out they were gone. Yesterday, four boys were seen throwing over, and, with much trouble, we took three of them, and this day I had them before Mr. Hall, at Liverpool, who informed me they were greatly annoyed at the borough gaol in the same way, and that he could do nothing with them. He severely reprimanded and discharged them."

Little comment on the condition of this prison is necessary beyond the statements set forth in the present Report and in the one of the preceding year. It is decidedly inferior in point of discipline to any other of its importance that has come under my observation. The greater number of its imperfections are not to be attributed, as is is too often the case, to the weakness of codes and systems of discipline, but to the absence of energy and conduct in the officers, and the want of more frequent and minute attention from those intrusted with the general supervision. The quantity of tobacco in the possession of the prisoners, the undisguised use of it, the numerous other unchecked improprieties, plainly manifest either gross neglect of duty in the officers or something worse. I again most earnestly, but respectfully, solicit the attention of the visiting justices to the state of this prison.

LIVERPOOL.—Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Liverpool. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

The liberality of the town council, the attention of the magistrates, and the intelligence and activity of the keeper, have brought this prison to a state of order and discipline highly creditable to all parties. Many alterations and additions, rendered necessary for the security of the prisoners, have been made to the fabric since my last report, and others are still indispensably requisite, for a temporary occupation, should the building of a new prison be determined upon by the municipal authorities. A wash-house and laundry, disinfecting apparatus for the clothing, baths, and infirmaries, apart from the main buildings, are those to which I allude. More convenient accommodation is also wanted for the female officers, and for the deposit of stores.

* These amounts are in full, that of the county to the 1st of June, and the boroughs to the 1st of August, 1837.

Diet.—The diet remains as before, with the exception that prisoners committed for three days have only a quart of gruel and one pound of bread daily.

Fuel.—No limited allowance, but a sufficient supply.

Cleanliness.—Linen weekly, and soap and towels are provided for the prisoners. The prison was extremely clean on the day of inspection. The want of a bath and disinfecting oven for the clothes is strongly marked by the following extract from the evidence of one of the female officers in charge of the vagrant class. "It is a great difficulty to get them clean, the women are actually creeping alive: there is no bath to pass them through. It would be very beneficial to cut the hair off some of them, they are so full of vermin."

Health.—The surgeon attends daily, and occasionally goes through the prison, and is present at corporal punishments. The ordinary ailments are colds, rheumatism, asthma, sore legs, syphilis, and gonorrhœa. The surgeon, in evidence, says, "There is no separate hospital, a room in one of the wings is made use of contiguous to the cells; if only of a temporary nature, one is absolutely required; cases continually occur which require separation. On my attendance in the prison, on the 27th of June, I found a note on the desk from a surgeon in the town, who was attending a debtor, stating there was a case of typhus fever in the prison. The prisoner had been attended by him for some days previously. In consequence of there being no detached hospital proper for the reception of such cases, I was under the immediate necessity of directing his removal from the prison to the fever hospital, attached to the workhouse, where he died within a week. A similar inconvenience resulted from a case of small-pox, in a female prisoner. I conceive the place where the women cook, from the exposure to cold, as likely to be prejudicial to their health. No disease in the prison attributable to the buildings or situation. The air, when from the north-east, brings the vapour from the manufactories of chemical substances, and is very noxious. I observed the vegetables all destroyed in one night in the part of the garden most exposed to its influence. There is great difficulty in cleansing the female prisoners, it is impossible to do so in all cases effectually without cutting off the hair, which is always objected to by them, and not persisted in from doubt of its legality. I give the officers cough-pills, purging-pills, and cordial-pills, which they give the prisoners, upon complaining, before I see them; likewise castor-oil and salts to administer as wanted. I do not attend midwifery cases in the prison. The debtors occasionally send for me." I recommend that the surgeon should comply with the Act of Parliament, and see each prisoner, debtors included, twice a-week. A journal on a much more comprehensive scale, with the daily entries of his attendances, and reports of cases, would be an improvement on the present practice. I consider the placing medicine in the hands of the officers, to administer to the prisoners, as hazardous, and that it ought to be discontinued. I am also of opinion, that the mode in which the medicines are obtained, by sending for them to a chemist, some distance off in the town, is very inconvenient. An officer, who can very ill be spared from other duties, is sent away on this errand, which might be easily obviated by either having them dispensed in the prison, or commuting for the supply with the surgeon, by allowing him a certain annual sum to provide them. The yearly account for drugs, appears to average about 35*l.*

RETURN of DEATHS in the Borough Prison of Liverpool from 6th October 1836, to 6th October 1837.

February 10th.	A. M. G.	Inflammation on the chest.
March 15th.	H. S.	Extreme debility.
June 8th.	H. W.	Epilepsy.
June 26th.	M. H.	Brain fever.
July 1st.	R. J.	Consumption.
May 15th.	M. J.	Found dead in her bed.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain performs two full services on Sundays, and visits the prisoners in the intervals between the services. On Tuesdays and Fridays prayers are also read by him in the chapel. He attends at the prison almost daily, and is generally engaged there from an hour to an hour and a half, seeing the prisoners under solitary confinement, and those under sentence of transportation. The chapel is too small to contain the whole number of prisoners at one time, and those not able to attend are placed under the charge of an officer, who keeps them engaged with their Bibles and religious books. The chaplain states, "I endeavoured to form a class, whom I might prepare for the sacrament; this did not at all answer my expectations: many of them said they were not sufficiently good or religious to take it. There were one or two Catholics, which I was not aware of at the time. I had only asked those who were the best behaved to form the class, with the ultimate view of administering the communion. It is the opinion of many criminals, that if they commit a sin after receiving the sacrament, they are irrecoverably lost. I have visited prisoners in solitary confinement, who were Catholics, and when I have asked them to repeat the Lord's Prayer, they have replied, 'Oh, yes, willingly; but our Lord's Prayer is not yours.'" No provision has as yet been made for instructing the prisoners, and I cannot more strongly impress the necessity of its being done than by the annexed extract.

Extract from the Report of the officiating Minister of the Borough Gaol, Liverpool, presented to the Mayor and Magistrates in Sessions assembled, October 17, 1837.

"I also most strongly recommend to you the immediate establishment of schools. There

are at this time in the prison 74 boys, under the age of 19 years, and almost all of them, in common with a very great number of other prisoners, are in very great want of moral and religious instruction. In the printed calendar for the present session there are 133 prisoners for trial. Out of these only eight can read and write well; and several of them are in a higher rank of society than prisoners usually are. Fifty-two are not able to read or write at all; and all the rest can either read or write imperfectly: many of them, I believe, very imperfectly. I have frequently asked the boys, when I have visited them in solitary confinement, the simplest questions I could think of concerning religion, such as, 'Who is God?' 'Who is the Lord Jesus Christ?' 'And what has he done for man?' and I have generally found their religious knowledge is very limited; and that many have scarcely any knowledge at all on this subject, who have a good deal on other subjects. The children brought up in the corporation schools, or in any other good schools, will with great ease answer 100 questions, and answer them well, while these poor boys will scarcely answer one. Most of them, however, can repeat the Lord's Prayer, though many of them, I greatly fear, know but little of the meaning of it. Well regulated schools, established in the prison, will, I feel very confident, do a great deal of good. Regular employment, both physical, intellectual, moral, and religious, is, I am very much inclined to think, the very best cure for vice and immorality of all kinds."

In this prison, as well as in others in the vicinity, a considerable proportion of the prisoners are Roman Catholics, who generally conform, in the absence of any real religion, to the ceremonies of the Established Church. But this is only conformity; the attachment to the nominal or professed faith continues to operate as a bar and obstacle to their receiving moral and religious instruction from the clergyman of a different creed. It is true, the law provides, that upon a prisoner requesting it, a minister of his own persuasion may be admitted to him; but men, altogether ignorant of religion but in name, are but little likely to invite the approach of its ministers; in very few instances have I found such a wish expressed, nor can it be expected until they are first taught to appreciate its inestimable advantages. In the generality of cases the number of Roman Catholics in a prison is so trifling as to be lost sight of in the mass; but in the present instance, as will be shown by the annexed return, where they amount to nearly one half, the withholding so large a proportion from the offices and consolations of the religion they profess, and at the moment when they are most required, appears deserving of consideration, whether, by some means or other, the difficulties which stand in the way might be partially, if not wholly overcome. The following Return is compiled by the intelligent keeper of the borough prison.

Liverpool Borough Gaol and House of Correction, August 14th, 1837.

A RETURN of the Number and Names of the whole of the Prisoners confined in the Liverpool Borough Gaol and House of Correction, describing their Age and Religious Persuasion, taken from actual inquiry made to each Prisoner individually; and their Answers recorded as hereafter stated, the following Observation first being made to the Prisoners:—

It is desirable to ascertain as correctly as possible the religious persuasion of each prisoner confined in this gaol, and I wish you fully and clearly to understand that this inquiry is not made to satisfy any idle or whimsical curiosity. I therefore wish you to give me a plain and correct answer to the questions.

No.	Names of Prisoners.	Age.	Religious Persuasion.						
			Protestants.	Catholics.	Methodists	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Other Dissenters.	Jews.
	UNDER SENTENCE.								
1	Ann D.	30		1					
2	Elizabeth M.	42		1					
3	Mary E.	26		1					
4	Sarah E.	24	1						
5	Sarah H.	20	1						
6	Frances M.	22	1						
7	Margaret L.	28		1					
8	Agnes R.	18	1						
9	Ellen J.	18		1					
10	Mary Ann R.	16	1						
11	Margaret D.	22		1					
12	Ann J.	15		1					
13	Alice M.	20		1					
14	Sarah A.	40	1						
15	Elizabeth T.	35	1						
16	Mary L.	48	1						
17	Ellen H.	34		1					
18	Esther J.	30						Presbyterian	
19	Margaret H.	42	1						
20	Margaret R.	19		1					
21	Mary Ann O.	23	1						
22	Phoebe J.	20			1				
	Carried forward		10	10	1				

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Liverpool, Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

RETURN of Prisoners, &c., (*continued.*)

No.	Names of Prisoners.	Age.	Religious Persuasion.						
			Protestants	Catholics.	Methodists.	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Other Dissenters.	Jews.
	Brought forward		10	10	1	. .	. .	. .	. .
23	Isabella E. . .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
24	Mary W. . .	18	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
25	Ann W. . . .	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
26	Mary R. . .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
27	Susan H. D. .	38	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	. .
28	Esther C. . .	45	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
29	Sarah K. . .	36	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
30	Grace J. . .	70	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
31	Elizabeth C. .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
32	Margaret H. .	43	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
33	Mary S. . . .	26	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
34	Mary G. . . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	.
35	Margaret J. . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
36	Mary M. . .	18	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
37	Sarah B. . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
38	Catherine C. .	40	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
39	Jemima D. . .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
40	Mary W. . .	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
41	Margaret C. .	29	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
42	Ann P. . . .	38	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
43	Elizabeth D. .	60	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
44	Jane F. . . .	29	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
45	Elizabeth H. .	21	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
46	Mary F. . . .	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
47	Winefred G . .	24	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
48	Jane J. . . .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
49	Ann Y. . . .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
50	Mary H. . .	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
51	Mary J. . . .	57	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
52	Isabella L. . .	25	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
53	Elizabeth L. .	49	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
54	Margaret M. .	49	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
55	Charlotte T. .	33	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
56	Ann J. . . .	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
57	Mary O'N. . .	23	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
58	Mary Ann D. .	26	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
59	Ellen T. . .	37	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
60	Margaret M. .	18	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
61	Mary F. . .	27	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
62	Elizabeth T. .	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
63	Ann A. . . . (for T.)	30	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
64	Elizabeth B. .	21	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
65	Sarah S. . .	34	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
66	Mary C. . . .	22	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
67	Catharine S. .	22	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
68	Catharine R. .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
69	Ann G. . . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
70	Bridget M. . .	19	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
71	Elizabeth T. .	27	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
72	Catharine L. .	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
73	Elizabeth M'H.	26	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
74	Betsey D. . .	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
75	Catharine F. .	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
76	A. B.*. . . .	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
77	Elizabeth S. .	22	. .	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .
78	C. W. . . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
79	Maria Q. . .	21	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
80	Sarah D. . .	24	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
81	Mary S. . . .	30	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
82	Ann B. . . .	45	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
83	Fanny H. . .	23	. .	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .
	CONVICTS.								
84	Sarah F. . .	26	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
85	Eliza T. . . .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
86	Margaret E. .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
87	Judith M'C. .	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
88	Mary L. . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
	Carried forward	. .	47	36	3	. .	. .	2	. .

RETURN of Prisoners, &c.—(*continued.*)

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Liverpool. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

No.	Names of Prisoners.	Age.	Religious Persuasion.						
			Protestants.	Catholics.	Methodists.	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Other Dissenters.	Jews.
	Brought forward		47	36	3	. .	. .	2	. .
89	Barbara H.	31	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
90	Ann C.	34	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
91	Eliza S.	72	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
92	Mary R.	22	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
93	Mary R.	13	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
94	Bridget M.	38	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
95	Sarah S.	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
96	Ann G.	26	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
97	Ann J.	40	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
98	Mary M.	46	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
99	Eliza H.	50	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	
100	Matilda W.	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
101	Alice D.	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
102	Mary R.	18	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
103	Mary L.	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
104	Mary A.	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
105	Ann M'B.	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
106	Sarah H.	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
107	Ann K.	24	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
108	Ann W.	24	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
109	Mary B.	52	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
110	Elizabeth J.	31	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
111	Ann F.	45	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
112	Susanna C.	40	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
113	Bridget P.	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
114	Rose C.	26	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
115	Margaret S.	26	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
116	Catherine C.	18	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
117	Mary J.	29	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
118	Mary T.	22	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
119	Ann R.	27	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
120	Esther M.	13	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
121	Mary M.	27	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
122	Elizabeth D.	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
123	Mary H.	19	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
124	Alice S.	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
125	Ellen N.	34	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
126	Bridget M.	34	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
127	Margaret G.	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
128	Sarah T.	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
129	Catharine B.	28	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
130	Eliza S.	27	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
131	Jane L.	28	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
132	Bridget W.	21	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
133	Rose F.	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
134	Ann P.	40	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
135	Jane G.	42	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	. .
136	Jane H.	23	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
137	Sarah J.	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
138	Etty T.	26	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
139	Ellen D.	18	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
140	Alice J.	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
141	Eliza D.	35	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
142	Eliza C.	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
143	Alice C.	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
144	Mary W.	26	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
145	Mary Ann B.	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
146	Mary C.	43	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
147	Margaret R.	40	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
148	Bridget S.	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
149	Elizabeth C.	21	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
150	Elizabeth F.	26	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
151	Jane E.	23	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
	UNDER SENTENCE.								
152	James G.	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
153	James C.	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
154	Hugh B.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
155	John S.	18	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	. .
	Carried forward		70	77	3	. .	. .	5	. .

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Liverpool. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

RETURN of Prisoners, &c.—(*continued.*)

No.	Names of Prisoners.	Age.	Religious Persuasion.						
			Protestants.	Catholics.	Methodists.	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Other Dissenters.	Jews.
	Brought forward		70	77	3	. .	. .	5	. .
156	William W. . .	18	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
157	John M. . .	18	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
158	Alexander R. .	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
159	Robert B. . .	21	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
160	James F. . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
161	William S. . .	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
162	Joseph S. . .	20	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
163	Thomas H. . .	18	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
164	John W. . .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
165	Edward W. . .	18	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
166	Samuel G. . .	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
167	Thomas L. . .	28	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
168	James G. . .	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
169	Michael M. . .	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
170	Thomas J. . .	31	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
171	John M'S. . .	34	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
172	Jeremiah C. .	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
173	James S. . .	37	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
174	Thomas N. . .	34	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
175	William H. Sen.	48	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
176	William H. Jun.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
177	Christopher H. .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
178	Thomas R. . .	26	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	. .
179	Thomas S. . .	20	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
180	William P. . .	33	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
181	William M'E. .	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
182	Edward O. . .	17	. .	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .
183	James L. . .	45	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
184	George C. . .	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
185	John G. . .	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
186	John B. . . .	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
187	David B. . .	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
188	Martin E. . .	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
189	William J. . .	15	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
190	John L. . .	18	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
191	Edward W. . .	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
192	John B. . .	40	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
193	John C. . .	25	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	. .
194	Americus S. .	23	. .	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .
195	John H. . .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
196	John M'C. . .	48	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	. .
197	Patrick C. . .	22	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
198	Richard M. . .	23	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
199	Joseph S. . .	25	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
200	Joseph C. . .	27	. .	. .	. .	. .	1	. .	. .
201	Michael M. . .	36	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
202	William H. . .	28	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
203	Arthur S. . .	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
204	John C. . .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
205	George R. . .	23	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
206	John C. . .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
207	William B. . .	19	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
208	Thomas M. .	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
209	Richard R. . .	29	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
210	Thomas D. . .	28	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
211	Richard O. . .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
212	James C. . .	34	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
213	William W. . .	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
214	Joseph H. . .	40	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
215	John P. . .	40	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
216	Peter T. . .	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
217	Thomas R. . .	35	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
218	Isaac R. . .	52	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
219	Robert S. . .	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
220	George D. . .	35	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	Presbyterian	. .
221	John C. . . .	21	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
222	George R. . .	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
223	George W. . .	40	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
224	John M. . .	40	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
225	Henry Jones B..	24	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
	Carried forward		112	98	5	. .	1	9	. .

A RETURN of Prisoners, &c.—(*continued.*)

No.	Names of Prisoners.	Age.	Religious Persuasion.						
			Protestants.	Catholics.	Methodists.	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Other Dissenters.	Jews.
	Brought forward	..	112	98	5	..	1	9	..
226	Patrick B. (for T.)	30	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
227	Thomas C.	21	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
228	Henry L.	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
229	George B.	17	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
230	Edward H.	33	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
231	John T.	40	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
232	James T.	39	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
233	Peter C.	20	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
234	William E.	22	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
235	Dominick M'C.	42	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
236	John P.	43	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
237	William M.	27	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
238	Joseph W.	20	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
239	Michael C.	18	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
240	John O.	32	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
241	Thomas J.	16	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
242	John C.	19	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
243	Christopher M.	20	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
244	George J.	31	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
245	Joseph S.	30	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
246	Thomas J.	22	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
247	James C.	17	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
248	Joseph O.	24	..	..	..	..	..	Independent.	..
249	James D.	28	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
250	James T.	36	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
251	William C.	32	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
252	Patrick H.	30	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
253	Thomas Q.	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
254	James M.	18	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
255	Thomas M.	25	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
256	James F.	23	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
257	J. B. S.	31	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
258	William C.	19	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
259	Thomas M.	17	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
260	Jonathan N.	22	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
261	John S.	52	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
262	Daniel M.	48	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
263	Isaac P. H.	21	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
264	John M.	37	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
265	Thomas M.	21	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
266	James M.	23	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
267	Owen M'M.	42	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
268	John L.	42	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
269	Peter P.	31	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
270	William M.	28	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
271	John H.	18	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
272	John M'A.	20	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
273	John M'I.	34	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
274	Patrick B.	24	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
275	Barnaby B.	36	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
276	Peter F.	40	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
277	James A.	33	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
278	Henry A.	20	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
279	John T.	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
280	Michael M.	15	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
281	George S.	43	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
282	Robert C.	22	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
283	Thomas J.	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
284	John C.	17	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
285	Benjamin P.	18	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
286	William W.	25	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
287	Owen W.	18	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
288	James C.	40	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
289	Robert C.	21	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
290	William B.	17	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
291	James H.	17	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
292	Patrick C.	40	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
293	Henry R.	20	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
294	John G.	24	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
	Carried forward	..	148	125	7	..	1	13	..

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Liverpool. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

A RETURN of Prisoners, &c.—(*continued.*)

No.	Names of Prisoners.	Age.	Religious Persuasion.						
			Protestants.	Catholics.	Methodists.	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Other Dissenters.	Jews.
	Brought forward	..	148	125	7	. .	1	13	. .
295	Stephen T.	30	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
296	Michael M'A.	28	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
297	Jacob C.	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
298	William W.	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
299	Thomas W.	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
300	Robert G.	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
301	Con M.	23	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
302	James H.	31	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
303	Richard W.	22	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
304	Charles M.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
305	Thomas C.	44	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
306	Edward W.	13	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
307	John G.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
308	William L.	15	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
309	John F.	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
310	John H.	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
311	Michael H.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
312	John S.	13	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
313	Richard E.	13	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
314	Michael C.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
315	Richard I.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
316	Frank M.	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
317	William W.	11	. .	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .
318	Michael S.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
319	William M'H.	13	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
320	Patrick H.	13	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
321	Miles T.	13	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
322	James D.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
323	Malchi S.	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
324	John C.	15	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
325	William P.	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
326	John M.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
327	John E.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
328	James P.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
329	John W.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
330	John B.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
331	William S.	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
332	Daniel H.	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
333	Henry B.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
334	John W.	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
335	Michael C.	13	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
336	Peter N.	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
337	Thomas H.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
338	William D.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
339	Thomas H.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
340	Joseph R.	14	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
341	John R.	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
342	James S.	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
343	William K.	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
344	William B.	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
345	Jeremiah B.	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
346	Robert G.	15	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
347	John F.	20	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
348	John R.	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
349	William C.	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
350	John F.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
351	Patrick K.	16	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
352	John G.	17	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
353	John J.	18	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
354	Frederick L.	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
355	Henry M.	15	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
356	George S.	16	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
357	William C.	13	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
358	James D.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
359	John R.	17	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
360	William M'C.	14	. .	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
361	John W.	19	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
362	John J.	18	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
363	John R.	22	. .	. .	. .	. .	1	. .	. .
364	John H.	26	1	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
	Carried forward.	..	180	161	8	. .	2	13	. .

A RETURN of Prisoners, &c.—(*continued.*)

II.

NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Liverpool. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

No.	Names of Prisoners.	Age.	Religious Persuasion.						
			Protestants.	Catholics.	Methodists.	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Other Dissenters.	Jews.
	Brought forward	..	180	161	8	..	2	13	..
365	Joseph C.	23	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
366	William S.	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
367	James H.	20	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
368	William K.	52	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
369	John L.	24	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
370	John G.	20	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
371	John M.	22	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
372	Henry F.	18	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
373	James H.	27	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
374	John C.	24	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
375	James M'A.	16	..	1	..	..	..	.	..
376	Martin D.	16	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
377	Dennis H.	15	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
378	Daniel M'N.	14	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
379	Thomas H.	15	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
380	William R.	33	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
381	Thomas B.	26	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
382	Thomas S.	19	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
383	John J.	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
384	Robert J.	41	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
385	Robert C.	50	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
386	William K.	35	Is not	inclined	to answer.				
387	George H.	23	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
388	Robert R.	64	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
389	Edward H.	31	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
390	William H.	33	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
391	John W.	43	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
392	William G. M.	37	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
393	John T.	30	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
394	Bryan W.	40	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
395	William M'K.	25	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
396	Charles M'N.	24	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
397	William W.	47	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
398	Philip M.	38	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
399	William H.	50	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
400	William L.	29	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
401	William H.	25	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
402	Charles A.	34	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
403	Robert M.	50	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
404	James B.	25	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
405	Robert U.	21	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
406	John E.	42	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
407	William B.	27	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
408	William C.	37	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
409	George M'L.	30	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
410	Rowland B.	36	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
411	Christopher C.	38	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
412	John F.	34	..	..	..	..	..	Presbyterian.	..
413	Thomas G.	42	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
414	William K.	24	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
415	James D.	32	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
416	Richard S.	27	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
417	James T.	29	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
418	Elizabeth B.	25	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
419	Ann M.	42	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
420	Mary M.	48	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total	..	216	174	8	1	2	18	..

A SUMMARY of the foregoing Return.

	Protestants.	Catholics.	Methodists.	Baptists.	Unitarians.	Presbyterians.	Independents.	Jews.
Protestants	216	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Catholics	..	174	..	..	..	..	..	..
Methodists	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..
Baptists	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Unitarians	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Presbyterians	..	..	..	..	..	17	..	..
Independents	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Jews	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	None

A Classification of Age and Extent of Education.

Ages.	Read and Write well.	Read and Write imperfectly.	Read well.	Read imperfectly.	Neither Read nor Write.
Under 10 years . .	None	None	None	None	None
10 and under 15 . .	None	9	2	3	24
15 and under 20 . .	5	37	13	19	43
20 and under 30 . .	22	40	18	23	34
30 and above . . .	29	41	5	12	40

Of the foregoing Return the following are Debtors.

Ages.	Read and Write well.	Read and Write imperfectly.	Read well.	Read imperfectly.	Neither Read nor Write.
20 and under 30 . .	7	4	1	. .	. .
30 and above. . .	14	9	1	. .	1

Punishments.—Since the inspector's last visit, the practice of placing the convicts in irons on being sentenced to transportation has been wholly discontinued.

Labour.—The labour to which prisoners are subjected is the picking of oakum, shoemaking, tailoring, and needlework; they sit on benches in large rooms, at a sufficient distance apart from each other to prevent communication, and pursue their work in silence, under the superintendence of the officers. The old rope is bought at the rate of about 14*l.*, and sold at 20*l.* per ton. There is a loss of from a sixth to a seventh in the picking and stoving. The prisoners' labour is estimated at a halfpenny a pound, out of which the taskmaster receives 8½ per cent., being about 23*l.* yearly. Each prisoner picks from four to five pounds daily. The females pick it much finer than the males, and the price for oakum manufactured by them is from 1*l.* to 2*l.* a ton higher. The prisoners work for the officers at a lower rate than for the tradesmen. Several of the prisoners appear to have received considerable sums as tailors, and to have been extremely ill-conducted at the same time. H. B., a tailor, for a second offence sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment, was detected in purloining the cloth at a period when 3*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* was due to him; G. J. was detected in a similar theft when 2*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*; another 1*l.*, and a fourth 2*l.* 9*s.* 5*d.* These sums were forfeited by their misconduct.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.—The provisions are sent in according to a price stipulated by the magistrates, who appoint the tradespeople. All the articles, as they come in, are regularly entered into books for the purpose. The bills are sent to the keeper to be compared with the quantities received, and are laid before the Finance Committee of the Town Council and discharged monthly. The keeper pays the inferior officers, and draws 100*l.* in advance for this purpose, accounting for it quarterly, a pay list being made out, to which every officer affixes his name opposite to the amount of his salary as having received it.

Liverpool Borough Gaol.

Expenditure from the 1st September, 1836, to the 31st August, 1837.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Repairs, viz.,						
For sundry fixtures belonging to the late governor .	16	3	0			
For joiners' work	1089	17	9			
For brickwork	1180	7	1			
For masons' work	247	10	0			
For plumbers' work	248	1	5			
For painters' work	121	17	9			
For plasterers' work	148	2	11			
For smiths' and ironwork	424	8	2			
For iron bedsteads	44	0	0			
For stove	3	16	6			
For wirework	18	14	9			
For excavators' work at wells	91	18	3			
For paving stones	4	1	5			
For water	2	0	0			
For labourers' wages	47	15	11			
For detector clock	6	13	0			
For attending and regulating clock	0	10	6			
				3695	18	5
William Neighbour, per executor, salary in full £58 6 8						
Ditto, for conveying prisoners to Woolwich . . . 37 4 0						
Ditto, general disbursements 44 14 4						
	140	5	0			
Carried forward . . .	140	5	0	3695	18	5

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward . . .	140	5	0	3695	18	5
Peter Rowson, for his services as deputy governor 40 0 0						
Ditto, disbursements as ditto . 110 12 11						
	150	12	11			
William Batcheldor, governor, salary to 1st August 320 16 8						
Ditto, sundry disbursements 90 0 9						
	410	17	5			
Turnkeys', watchmen's, and matrons' salaries, to 1st August	637	18	6			
Task-master, wages, commission, and disbursements .	99	18	5			
Rev. J. B. Winstanly, per executor, stipend in full .	131	5	0			
Ditto, for expenses incurred during his illness	21	0	0			
John Roughsedge, clerk of chapel, 1 year's salary .	5	5	0			
Richard Forshaw, surgeon, 1 year's ditto	63	0	0			
Thomas M'Cartney, &c., ditto, for attendance . .	7	1	6			
Allowance to poor debtors	343	0	6			
For bread and meal, &c.	887	3	0			
For butchers' meat	377	14	7			
For bacon	100	9	2			
For potatoes	141	8	6			
For milk	16	9	10			
For straw	10	11	0			
For coal	216	3	1			
For medicines	85	2	10			
For soap and candles	99	0	3			
For gas	67	8	2			
For white coopers' work and brushes	56	18	2			
For stationery and printing	129	16	0			
For bibles and prayer books	27	16	0			
For blankets, bedding, and woollen cloth	828	19	7			
For clothing	50	0	8			
For clogs	150	7	8			
For cotton weft	51	17	7			
For junk and old rope	604	15	0			
For ironmongery	109	2	4			
For upholsterers' work	23	0	0			
For mangle	9	9	0			
For wheelbarrows	6	9	8			
For coffins	3	15	6			
For chairs	5	5	0			
For thread	13	13	9			
For combs	5	10	8			
For assessed taxes on house and dogs	13	12	0			
The magistrates of the county, for the maintenance and custody of prisoners at Kirkdale	1723	0	9			
Expenses of deputation to Preston, arranging for ditto	4	18	6			
James Harper and Co., for removing convicts to Woolwich	574	5	0			
William Parkinson, for removing prisoners from gaol to sessions	21	15	0			
	8426	2	6			
Deduct—for oakum sold and work done by prisoners	381	5	0			
				8044	17	6

LIVERPOOL BOROUGH HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

A SUMMARY of the Expenditure for Eleven Months, commencing the 1st day of October, 1836, and ending 31st day of August, 1837.

Total number of Prisoners maintained 98,430. Average daily number 293½.

DAILY DIETARY.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
To amount paid for butcher's meat	327	8	4			
„ bacon	123	4	8			
„ potatoes and peas	150	0	8			
Carried forward . . .	600	13	8			

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		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
	Brought forward	600	13	8			
To amount paid for	onions and other vegetables	11	10	0			
,,	pepper, spice, &c.	19	15	11			
,,	brown bread	730	6	5½			
,,	oatmeal and salt	147	6	3			
					1509	12	3½
	EXTRAS FOR CHILDREN AND SICK.						
,,	white bread	11	8	9½			
,,	milk	23	13	11½			
,,	groceries	17	6	5½			
,,	wine, ale, &c.	12	3	7			
,,	medicine	64	5	4			
					128	18	1½
	FIRE, LIGHT, AND WASHING.						
,,	coals	297	6	11			
,,	gas	29	3	6			
,,	candles and soap	68	18	0			
,,	chloride of lime, alum, &c.	8	6	10			
					403	15	3
	BEDDING AND CLOTHING.						
,,	bed, canvass, and linen-drapery	180	6	6			
,,	blankets	146	4	6			
,,	straw	20	15	7			
,,	cloth for men's clothing	262	4	0			
,,	linsey for women's ditto	93	15	0			
,,	clogs	106	0	4			
,,	cotton yarn for shirting	51	17	7			
,,	for weaving ditto	6	18	0			
,,	small wares for sewing	20	19	2			
					889	0	8
,,	books and stationery	36	15	4			
,,	printing	60	12	6			
,,	ironmongery	10	11	4			
,,	cooper's work and goods	95	2	4			
,,	a new mangle	9	9	0			
,,	taxes	13	12	0			
,,	extra surgical attendance	7	1	6			
,,	salaries to officers	1141	15	8			
,,	incidental expenses and general disbursements per governor	109	2	11			
,,	top coats for turnkeys	34	4	0			
					1518	6	7
					4449	12	11
	Less as per contra				1016	18	10¼
					3432	14	0¾

	s.	d.
Weekly cost per head for diet, about	2	1⅜
,, including children and hospital	2	4
,, with the above, and fire and washing	2	10⅛
,, with bedding and clothing added	4	1⅛
,, with all the prison expenses included	4	10⅝

The above account is intended to exhibit the expenses incurred on the criminal side of the gaol only, and does not include repairs, alterations, improvements, or removal of prisoners either before or after conviction; all other expenses are enumerated.

N. B. The number of children maintained within the same period, and whose cost of maintenance is included in the above account, but not enumerated in the number 98,430, are 2,428, at 1*s.* 8⅛*d.* per head per week, amounting to 29*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*

PER CONTRA.

		£.	s.	d.
By amount received	for maintenance of deserters	20	1	0
,,	for John Smith, a foreign convict	3	3	0
,,	moiety of penalty for conveying spirits into the gaol	5	0	0
,,	of debtors' portion of bill for coals ¼	74	6	8¾
,,	,, governor's salary ¼	80	4	2
,,	,, chaplain's ¼	22	18	4
,,	,, surgeon ¼	13	15	0
	Carried forward	219	8	2¾

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward . . .	219	8	2¾
By amount received of debtors' portion of governor's clerk . . ¼	31	14	11
„ „ chaplain's ditto . . ¼	1	6	3
„ „ watchman's . . . ¼	11	17	6
„ „ gas account . . . ¼	7	5	10½
„ of salary of two turnkeys . . . . in full	98	1	2
„ of difference in value of stock on 1st October, 1836, and when taken on 31st August, 1837,	515	16	6
By amount of prisoners' earnings, after deducting taskmaster's salary, his per centage, and all other expenses incidental to the department	128	4	8
By amount of daily diet for 211 debtors from 1st August to 31st August, at 2*s.* 1⅜*d.* per head per week	3	3	9
	£1016	18	10¼

Books. Check-book.—Containing entries of the quantities of meat and bread delivered daily by the tradespeople for the use of the prison, to whom a receipt is given, and the counterpart retained by the keeper.

Provision Book.—

Store Book.—Containing an account of the issue of all stores, and the stock in hand balanced monthly.

Benefaction Book.—With debtor and creditor account of sums received.

General Account Book.—Entries of all disbursements on account of salaries, provisions, and stores.

Petty Cash Book.—

Requisition Book.—Requisitions for all articles wanted for the service of the prison, are made in writing by the keeper, and submitted to the magistrates for their approval.

Deserters' Book.—Arranged under the heads of—When received—names—age—height—whether committed or received by route—regiment—from | Period Paid to—number of days—amount received—when discharged. The balance of the sums allowed for the maintenance of soldiers is paid over to the treasurer of the borough.

Prisoners' Earnings Book.—With particulars of the work performed by each prisoner.

Petty Ledger.—Debtor and creditor account of sums paid and received on account of work.

Ledger.—General account of all work done.

Day Book.—

General Commitment Books.—Containing entries of the prisoners' names, arranged whether to hard labour or otherwise.

Register of Prisoners for trial.—Arranged similar to the calendar at sessions.

Prisoners' Property Book.—Arranged under the heads of—Name—date of commitment—description of property £. s. d. —date when restored—prisoners' receipt for the same.

Fine Book.—Prisoner's name—Amount of Fine and Costs. £. | *s.* | *d.*—notice of offence—date of commitment—term of imprisonment—when received into custody—when and why discharged—Amount paid. £. | *s.* | *d.* The fines inserted are paid over by the keeper every week, and the book exhibited before the magistrates.

Punishment Book.—Date—name—whipping—irons—solitary—lock up—Stoppage of Food. bkfst. | din. | sup. —cause of punishment.

Keeper's Journal.—Containing entries of the daily state of the prison, and of punishments, deaths, and occurrences. Extract 18th September:—"This evening a female debtor was brought in execution from the Court of Requests, but finding that she had recently been confined by the small-pox, and was not then recovered from its effects, I did not admit her into the gaol; the surgeon of the gaol says it is not only necessary the party themselves should be free from disease, but that the clothes also be purified to prevent contagion."

Visitors' Book.—Date—name of visitor—residence—if related—cause of visit—remarks.

Discharge Book.—Arranged for every day in the year with the exception of Sundays.

Visiting Magistrates' Book.—Extract September 6th:—"Found every thing in the prison in excellent order. ———, admitted by the keeper into the hospital solely on account of his

better education and manners, without knowing any mitigating circumstances connected with his committal; does not appear to me to have any claim to that indulgence, and I ordered that he should be placed with the prisoners in the ordinary way.

"D. HODGSON."

I cannot forbear remarking, that I have found in too many instances a disposition to interfere with the sentences of the law on behalf of individuals whose education, talents, and station ought to have prevented their guilt, and who have not on their behalf the palliating plea of ignorance, so general among prisoners. The mischief of this misplaced lenity is obvious; it creates a suspicion of partiality in the breast of the humbler, but not more guilty criminal, which I have heard more than once vented in the simple expression, "Oh, he is a gentleman!" The visiting justices are those alone who ought to interfere.

The entire of the books in this prison are extremely well kept.

Benefactions.—Mrs. Molyneux bequeathed two-fifths of the annual rent of the Rector's Field, for the benefit of poor debtors confined in the borough gaol. This sum has been in arrear, and the keeper has lately received three half years, amounting to 13*l.* 13*s.*, which has been disposed of according to the donor's intentions in providing them with the means of obtaining their discharge. The grand jury on the 17th of April, 1837, gave the sum of 9*l.* 10*s.* for like purposes.

Debtors.—By a late Act of Parliament the borough court for the recovery of small debts has been re-constructed, and the power of imprisonment limited to seven days. This alteration has materially diminished the number of this class of prisoners, and permitted the appropriation of a further portion of the gaol to the accommodation of the criminals. The substitution of a regular prison diet for debtors unable to support themselves, and strictly confining them to it, instead of paying them the sum of 6*d.* each from the borough fund, the restriction of the quantity of ale and wine and the practice of smoking, the regulating of the periods of visiting, the locking up of the bed cells during the day, have had a most beneficial effect. Intoxication, which formerly prevailed to a considerable extent, may be said to be suppressed. The value of these arrangements, even in a pecuniary point of view, are shown by the following statement of the expense incurred by the borough for a month's maintenance of these prisoners at three several periods, the last being within the operations of the new regulations.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
In the month of August, 1835, the average number of debtors in the gaol were $86\frac{3}{4}$, and the sixpences allowed by the corporation for the same month amounted to	42	5	0
In the month of August, 1836, average number of debtors $89\frac{2}{3}$, amount of sixpences	36	3	6
In the month of August, 1837, average number of debtors $34\frac{1}{8}$, amount of cost for provisions furnished in lieu of sixpences paid	3	3	9

Certain of the debtors are much dissatisfied with the new regulations, and during the course of my inspection requested to see me, and made the following complaints, which require no comment.

1. We consider that from 12 to 3 is too short a time for visiting.
2. We think that keeping the bed-rooms locked during the day is a great inconvenience.
3. We consider the yard gate being shut during Divine service as a great hardship.
4. We consider it also as a hardship, that a man who is obliged to take 6*d.* from the parish is not permitted to receive a glass of ale if paid for by a friend who comes to see him.
5. We consider that for those who support themselves a pint of ale is too little; it ought to be a quart.
6. We consider that being stopped smoking in the day-rooms is a great hardship.

Upon going through the debtors' wards I found the ventilators filled up, and in the day-room a party engaged in the game of bull ring. Low publications of a most improper kind were lying about. The interior was, however, conspicuous, for a much greater degree of cleanliness than at my last visit. I cannot but express my satisfaction at the improvement which has taken place in the management of this class of prisoners, without any abridgement of their personal convenience. To impose restrictions is at all times an unpleasant task, and this feeling but too frequently interferes with the performance of a public duty. It is to this alone I can possibly attribute the delay until now in the introduction of regulations absolutely necessary for the maintenance of common decency, and the protection of the more respectable. I recommend most strongly that periodicals of a description, such as found on the day of inspection, should not be publicly brought in and sold in the prison. The institution of a library, for the use of the debtors, judiciously selected, and carefully circulated, would, I am satisfied, be most beneficial, and afford at least no excuse for their resorting to vile means for passing away time.

General Discipline.—The interior of this prison will bear a comparison with the best regulated on the points of cleanliness and neatness of arrangement.

State and distribution of prisoners on the day of inspection :—

Liverpool Borough Gaol and House of Correction, 4th day of November, 1837.

MORNING STATE OF PRISON.

Prisoners confined therein.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under sentence of transportation	27	15	42
,, ,, of imprisonment from sessions	86	67	153
Summarily convicted	77	62	139
Committed for want of sureties	18	2	20
,, for trial at the sessions	3	4	7
,, for further examination	..	..	..
Deserters	2	..	2
Debtors	47	2	49
Total	260	152	412

DISTRIBUTION.

Class.		Number of Prisoners.	Number of Cells.
	FEMALES.		
1	First convictions after trial	17	13
2	Committed for trial, and bail for sessions	5	14
3	Old offenders and transports	65	35
4	Vagrants and misdemeanants	63	36
	MALES.		
5	Committed for trial	4	16
6	Adult vagrants	45	31
7	Juvenile vagrants	24	16
8	Misdemeanants	13	14
9	Old offenders and transports	47	39
10	1st, convicted adults	43	53
11	,, juvenile	37	15
12	Poor debtors, male	18	27
13	Other ,, ,,	29	39
14	Female debtors	2	6
	Total	412	343

Silence is enforced among the convicted prisoners, and order at meals generally, but not to the full extent. The situation of the day-rooms, and the difficulty of inspecting them, render this task no easy one when the prisoners are divided into classes. The magistrates have established a scale of payment to prisoners for certain work done in the prison, while others engaged in picking of oakum and serving receive no remuneration. I object most strongly to all payments to convicted prisoners; such employments as included in the subjoined return are decided reliefs from the monotony and rigidity of the discipline, and pay the prisoners quite sufficiently in their agreeable relaxation from severer labours. Exemplary conduct may, if thought necessary, be compensated and rewarded by the magistrates upon discharge, and this being understood will operate sufficiently as a premium to the really deserving. The number of prisoners employed, I think, may be very advantageously curtailed, and I particularly allude to those about the exterior gate.*

Liverpool Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

A RETURN of Cooks, Yardsmen, Monitors, &c., employed on the 4th Day of November, 1837.

No.	Names.	Age.	Offence.	Sentence.	Date of Commitment.	Date of Employment.	Nature of Employment.	Extra Allowance.
1	J. C.	30	Base coin	18 months	May 27, 1836	June 2, 1836	Barber	1s. per week, paid at the expiration of imprisonment, subject to forfeiture for any offence committed within the prison.
2	W. P.	33	Embezzlement	18 months	Feb. 9, 1837	Oct. 23, 1837	Cook	Ditto.
3	T. S.	19	Stealing a gown	12 months	Dec. 29, 1836	July 16, 1837	Ditto	Ditto.
4	T. R.	26	Stealing shawls	12 months	Feb. 14, 1837	May 19, 1837	Ditto	Ditto.
5	P. C.	22	Stealing 3 half-sovereigns	12 months	Feb. 4, 1837	Aug. 11, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.

* These allowances have since been discontinued.

RETURN of Cooks, &c., (*continued.*)

No.	Names.	Age.	Offence.	Sentence.	Date of Commitment.	Date of Employment.	Nature of Employment.	Extra Allowance.
6	J. M.	41	Stealing knives, &c.	9 months	April 24, 1837	June 28, 1837.	Yardsman	1*s.* per week, paid at the expiration of imprisonment, subject to forfeiture for any offence committed within the prison.
7	D. M.	58	Excise fine	Unlimited	May 19, 1837.	June 4, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
8	J. P.	40	Embezzlement	12 months	July 18, 1837.	Oct. 31, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
9	T. L.	27	Stealing a clock	12 months	April 29, 1837	Aug. 9, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
10	T. J.	30	Entering a warehouse with intent to commit a felony.	12 months	June 1, 1837.	July 6, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
11	J. B.	40	Obtaining money by false pretences.	6 months	June 29, 1837.	April 1, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
12	J. P.	40	Ditto	6 months' imprisonment.	June 24, 1837.	July 14, 1837.	Monitor	9*d.* per week, ditto.
13	P. B.	30	Feloniously receiving butter.	12 months	Jan. 10, 1837.	Feb. 9, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
14	J. S.	20	Stealing indigo	12 months	March 18, 1837	July 3, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
15	J. C.	34	Stealing a watch	9 months	July 1, 1837.	Aug. 15, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
16	H. J. B.	22	Embezzlement	15 months	April 27, 1837.	July 3, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
17	J. W.	19	Stealing indigo	12 months	April 29, 1837.	Aug. 16, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
18	W. H.	48	Stealing lead	18 months	Dec. 16, 1836.	Aug. 28, 1837.	Employed at gates.	Broken meat given occasionally by the turnkeys. No extra allowance.
19	M. E.	14	Stealing lead	12 months	Feb. 16, 1837.	Oct. 1, 1837.	Employed at turnkey's lodge.	Ditto.
20	G. D.	40	Embezzlement	12 months	Oct. 21, 1837.	Oct. 31, 1837.	Inspector of bedding and clothes.	One pint of gruel daily, and such other allowance as the magistrates may please to direct on the expiration of imprisonment.
21	J. C.	24	Stealing work-box, &c.	15 months	Dec. 23, 1836.	Feb. 2, 1837.	Carpenter	Ditto.
22	T. S.	20	Disorderly apprentice	3 months	Aug. 17, 1837.	Aug. 19, 1837.	Painter	Ditto.
23	W. H.	29	Stealing saws, &c.	12 months	March 28, 1837	April 13, 1837.	Whitewasher	Ditto.
24	R. R.	29	Stealing lead, &c.	18 months	March 10, 1837	April 12, 1837.	Oakum packer	Ditto.
25	M. M.	35	Stealing clocks	12 months	March 6, 1837.	Aug. 7, 1837.	Nurse in hospital.	Ditto.
26	I. R.	52	Stealing fat	6 months	June 27, 1837.	July 10, 1837.	Oakum stower	One pint of ale and one pint of gruel daily by direction of the Surgeon, this labour being very severe.
27	J. H.	40	Ditto	6 months	June 27, 1837.	Aug. 7, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
28	R. M.	23	Stealing planes, &c.	12 months	Feb. 23, 1837.	April 10, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
29	G. D.	36	Stealing clothes and cash	6 months	June 15, 1837.	Aug. 21, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
30	G. R.	18	Administering poison	18 months	June 2, 1837.	Oct 9, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
31	J. S.	24	Embezzlement	12 months	May 20, 1837.	Oct. 9, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
32	A. D.	27	Inveigling a child with intent to steal its clothes	18 months	June 28, 1836.	March 7, 1837.	Washerwoman	1*s.* per week, and half a pint of ale daily.
33	S. K.	36	Receiving four hats	12 months	Jan. 20, 1837.	April 10, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
34	M. C.	20	Stealing one cloak, &c.	12 months	March 6, 1837.	July 24, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
35	M. D.	21	Stealing a watch, &c.	12 months	Nov. 17, 1836.	March 7, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
36	I. L.	25	Stealing money	12 months	June 6, 1837.	Oct. 23, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
37	E. D.	60	Stealing wearing-apparel	9 months	March 21, 1837	Sept. 5, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
38	E. C.	22	Receiving wearing-apparel	12 months	Feb. 4, 1837.	Oct. 23, 1837.	Nurse in hospital.	9*d.* per week.
39	A. R.	18	Stealing wearing-apparel	12 months	Nov. 7, 1836.	Aug. 10, 1837.	Yardswoman.	Ditto.
40	B. W.	21	Found in warehouse with intent to commit felony.	3 months	Aug. 30, 1837.	Sep. 20, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
41	F. H.	23	Stealing money	For trial.	Aug. 11, 1837.	Oct. 26, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
42	M. R.	20	Stealing a watch	12 months	Nov. 17, 1836.	Sep. 5, 1837.	Monitress	Sixpence per week.
43	S. H. D.	39	Stealing shawls	18 months	Jan. 23, 1837.	July 5, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
44	M. O'N.	23	Stealing money	9 months	June 2, 1837.	Aug. 14, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
45	H. W.	27	To find bail	7 months	Oct. 7, 1837.	Oct. 24, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
46	M. P.	40	Stealing wearing-apparel	For trial.	Oct. 28, 1837.	Nov. 2, 1837.	Ditto	Ditto.
47	M. L.	25	Stealing a pair of breeches	1 month.	Oct. 5, 1837.	Oct. 25, 1837.	Servant in matron's house.	No extra allowance.
48	P. J.	20	Stealing a cheese	12 months	Dec. 21, 1836.	Oct. 23, 1837.	Chapel cleaner	9*d.* per week.

DEBTORS' WARDS.

No.	Name.	Nature of Employment.	Extra Allowance.
1	W. W.	First Class. Landing and day house-cleaner.	One shilling per week.
2	J. W.	Second Class. Ditto	Ditto.
3	R. O. C.	Ditto. Cook	Ditto.
4	Casual	Lamplighter	Sixpence per week.

The discipline and management of the classes of boys has been much improved. In the intervals from labour they are regularly drilled by a competent person, and have been taught to move with ease and precision. I regard the introduction of such intermittents to the discipline as particularly valuable for boys. They appear to take an interest in it: they acquire better habits and carriage, and the exercise itself is beneficial. The turnkey in charge says, "The boys are drilled by a prisoner who has been long in the service, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for embezzlement. The boys like it. In the short days it occupies about 20 minutes between meals; in the summer it is prolonged in the evenings after work. I used to have a great deal of trouble with the boys; they are much improved. The prisoner who is wardsmen over them takes a great deal of pains. I am sure many of them would accept of a refuge, who are without parents or neglected by them. The convicted boys are divided into two classes for short and long terms. I have known them received by their associates at the gate and carried off to their old haunts. There are people in Liverpool who keep houses for the reception of these boys and girls, where they live together in promiscuous intercourse. There was a little boy, who went out of here a few days ago, only 13 years of age now, and he has been in and out of prison these three years. He has most excellent parents, was taken home to them last Saturday evening, but he will not stop. I have no doubt some of these boys might be weaned from their bad practices. They get into good order, and work uncommonly well at anything they are set to. I recollect one instance of a boy who had been serving three months. His mother came to the gate for him, and he ran away from her very grasp. He is very good and tractable, and works well in prison, but is the very worst of characters out of it." The matron states, "Two of the female prisoners act as servants to myself and the other officers." A great number of the prisoners are Roman Catholics; who occasionally, when sick, ask for a clergyman. The greater number are unacquainted with the most simple qualifications for domestic servants, such as sewing or washing. The discipline of the prison has, I think, an effect upon them; they are decidedly more orderly than formerly. Drink is the cause generally ascribed by themselves of their coming here. They do not express any wish to be taught to read or write. Those that can read, particularly the elderly, make use of their Bibles. Many of them say they would rather pick oakum than be idle. The number of prisoners has much increased since the passing of the local Act, enabling the magistrates to commit drunkards for three days."

The female vagrant class is much too numerous for the preservation of order; there were 69 on the morning of inspection. If the means of their further separation cannot be attained in the Borough Gaol it would be desirable that a portion of these females were sent to Kirkdale, where they are scarcely in sufficient numbers to carry on the ordinary duties. With the advantage of a contract for the maintenance of a portion of the borough prisoners at Kirkdale, and a little attention, the borough gaol should, on no occasion, be inconveniently crowded; indeed, I see no reason why a separate sleeping cell should not be provided for each prisoner. The value of such a provision would far exceed the increased pecuniary amount of sending a few more to the county house of correction. I consider it would be better if the small space round the walls were discontinued as a garden, and gravelled, which would facilitate the discovery of articles thrown over, and supersede the necessity of employing prisoners in the cultivation. I also think that swine should not be permitted to be kept within the inclosure.

A very valuable analysis of the various Acts of Parliament for the government of prisons has been drawn up by the town clerk, and appended to the rules for the use and guidance of the magistrates.

In recommending the appointment of a schoolmaster and other measures, with a view to the improvement of the boys, I by no means hold out the idea that the number of this interesting class of prisoners will be diminished unless some further steps are taken to prevent their relapse into former habits when beyond the walls. The municipal opulence and private benevolence of the town of Liverpool will, I trust, unite in providing some establishment in which destitute children may be received, and where, by a judicious treatment adjusted to their years, not too deeply tinctured with the harshness of penal discipline, they may be taught the arts of industry and the ways of honest life.

Upon a previous visit to Liverpool, I was present at the time when the convicts were leaving the gaol to be conducted in vans to the hulks, and though the men were evidently dejected there was an attempt at bravado, manifested by cheering through the streets as they left the prison, which was responded to by many of their associates assembled on the outside. The mischievous effect of such acts needs no comment. At the time of my last inspection I conferred upon the subject with the town clerk, and the police were stationed at the gate to prevent any such ebullition from those without. I addressed the prisoners the day previously, expressing to them the folly of such conduct, and the certainty of its being reported in the proper quarter, and received the assurances of all that they would depart without a word. I attended the next morning at the time. A considerable number of people were assembled at the gate, but were kept in awe by the police. The prisoners ascended the van, and passed through the streets without uttering a word. Upon examining the contractor who conducts the transports to the hulks, he stated that considerable inconvenience has happened at times from the regulation for not receiving convicts at Woolwich after sunset. The carriages are liable to accidents, which have prevented their arriving within the proper time. On one occasion, about three months since, he was obliged to remain with the prisoners in a coffee-shop in London until the next morning, in consequence of being too late, and not having the former convenience of lodging them for the night in Newgate. It appears that the contractors never make any report to their employers of the conduct of the prisoners, or of casualties on the road. I recommend that a written statement of all occurrences should be made, and rendered to the magistrates upon the completion of their duties.

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Liverpool. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Many of the suggestions included in this Report were at once taken into consideration and adopted by the town council and magistrates, to whom I feel greatly indebted for the most studious courtesy and attention.

Officers.

Keeper.—Age 45; formerly in the army; salary 350*l.*; coals, candles, soap, and garden.

Principal Turnkey and Storekeeper.—Age 37; appointed 1836; married; salary 70*l.*; chapel clerk 5*l.* 5*s.*; does not reside in the prison.

Turnkey.—Age 36; appointed 1836; salary 63*l.*

Turnkey.—Age 42; appointed 1827; salary 63*l.*; married; does not reside.

Turnkey.—Age 28; appointed 1837; salary 63*l.*; married; does not reside.

Turnkey.—Age 24; appointed 1837; salary 63*l.*; does not reside.

Turnkey.—Age 26; appointed 1836; salary 63*l.*; married; does not reside.

Turnkey.—Age 27; appointed 1837; salary 63*l.*; single.

Turnkey, extra.—Age 25; employed during the sessions and until the transports have been sent away. The turnkeys sleep two nights in the prison and one out, by turns; they receive potatoes from the prison and a great coat once in three years.

Clerk.—Vacant; salary 63*l.*

Taskmaster.—Age 44; appointed 1836; salary 63*l.*; 8½ per cent. on amount of labour done by the prisoners; does not reside.

Watchman.—Age 33; appointed 1837; salary 52*l.*

Matron.—Appointed 1837; salary 50*l.*; single; resides in prison.

Taskmistress.—Age 29; widow; appointed 1836; salary 46*l.* 12*s.*; does not reside in prison.

Female Turnkey.—Age 26; single; appointed 1837; salary 30*l.*; resides in prison.

Female Turnkey.—Age 30; married; appointed 1837; salary 30*l.*; resides in prison.

Female Turnkey.—Age 33; single; appointed 1837; salary 30*l.*; resides in prison

Surgeon.—Salary 63*l.*; since increased to 100*l.* for attendance.

Chaplain.—Vacant.

LIVERPOOL.—BRIDEWELL, OR LOCK-UP.

Liverpool. Bridewell, or Lock-up.

I found this establishment, upon inspection, clean and in excellent order, and with the like apparent good management in all its details as was observable at my last visit, when under the charge of the present keeper of the borough gaol. A very valuable register has been instituted by the present keeper, and it is impossible to praise too highly the minuteness and accuracy of the entries. It contains an account and personal description of all the known and reputed thieves who pass through the lock-ups. The marks on their persons are inserted in the margin, and neat fac-similes of them made for the purpose of recognition. The entries are made in the following form :—

W. E. left arm.	William Evans, Seaman. Dark hair.	Age 22.	Welsh.

November 22, 1836.—Discharged.
December 22, „ —One month.
February 6, 1837.—Three months.
August 22, „ —Attempt to rob. Three months house of correction.

A book for the register of fines has also been established, arranged under the following heads :—Date—number in charge book—prisoner's name—amount of fine and costs—offence—less not paid—where paid—to whom paid—when paid—how disposed of. The plan and management of this establishment is well worthy of imitation; the books I particularly recommend.

The increase in the number of prisoners, as set forth in the annexed tables, are, I hope, to be ascribed to the vigilance of a well-regulated police rather than to any extraordinary augmentation of crime. As respects the numerous juvenile offenders in this populous borough, the result of all my further inquiries into the subject confirm me in again recommending the establishment of some receptacle as a refuge, if only a hulk on the river, where the humane experiment might be fairly tried of reclaiming a portion of the less abandoned, and saving the destitute from the commission of crime. Vide Report, 1836, p. 85.—Juvenile Delinquency, Liverpool.

A RETURN of the NUMBER of JUVENILE MALE THIEVES and SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS, of the Age of 18 Years, and under, brought before the Mayor and Sitting Magistrates for the Borough of Liverpool, commencing the 1st of January, and ending the 31st of December, 1837, distinguishing the Number in each Month, and the Number committed to gaol within that Period. Classed as follows:—

1837.	12 Years and under.	13 Years and not above 15.	16 Years and not above 18.	Total Number in Custody.	Committed.	Discharged.
January	14	55	90	159	72	87
February	21	67	93	181	87	94
March	35	79	80	194	102	92
April	24	48	58	130	65	65
May	33	49	40	122	55	67
June	29	69	73	171	77	94
July	30	82	108	220	108	112
August	34	74	87	195	74	121
September	23	77	75	175	84	91
October	25	72	89	186	93	93
November	24	50	88	162	73	89
December	30	83	98	211	91	120
Total	322	805	979	2106	981	1125

The following return shows the progressive increase in the number of juvenile offenders.

A RETURN of the NUMBER of MALE THIEVES and SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS, under the Age of 18 years, brought before the Magistrates for the Borough of Liverpool for four Years, commencing 1st of July 1833, and ending 30th June, 1837.

	12 Years and under.	13 Years and not above 15.	16 Years and not above 18.	Total Number in Custody.	Committed.	Discharged
1st July 1833, to 30th June 1834	218	470	338	1026	330	696
1st July 1834, to 30th June 1835	153	397	374	924	378	546
1st July 1835, to 30th June 1836	192	564	510	1266	543	723
1st July 1836, to 30th June 1837	307	774	778	1859	882	977
Total in 4 Years	870	2205	2000	5075	2133	2942

The following returns comprise the whole number of prisoners male and female who have passed through the lock-up.

A PROGRESSIVE RETURN of the whole NUMBER of PRISONERS brought before the Sitting Magistrates at the Police Court in the Borough of Liverpool, from the 1st of January to the 31st of December, 1837; and the Number committed to Gaol within that Period.

1837.	Committed.	Total Number.	1837.	Committed.	Total Number.
			Brought forward	1819	8524
January	281	1276	July	463	1982
February	297	1308	August	389	1553
March	366	1436	September	409	1523
April	234	1278	October	470	1722
May	237	1494	November	323	1434
June	404	1732	December	344	1419
Carried forward	1819	8524	Grand Total	4217	18157

A similar RETURN for three years last past.

Date.	Number in Custody.	Committed.
1835	13506	2138
1836	16890	3143
1837	18157	4217
Total in 3 Years.	48553	10498

NORFOLK.

Norwich Castle.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Inspected this prison the 28th of November and subsequent days. The wards were clean and orderly; in some of the sleeping cells were bundles of clothing not in use by the prisoners: in one was found several pieces of leather cut into circular shapes for some game. The blankets and rugs appear to be greatly injured by the practice of the prisoners tearing off slips from them to fasten the clothes round their bodies at night; this practice might be easily remedied by having them hemmed round. In two instances the prisoners were sleeping three in a cell, in order to preserve the prescribed classification, although several cells were unoccupied in other classes. The part of the prison appropriated to debtors appeared cleaner than when last under my notice, but this was explained by the keeper having employed a paid servant to do the work, finding it hopeless to expect it from the prisoners. Smoking tobacco appeared the universal occupation of this class of prisoners, and I observed pipes generally either in use or lying about in the rooms. To any unfortunate prisoner not accustomed to the use or odour of this luxury, the nuisance must be intolerable; it pervades the whole prison; the chaplain says "it is at times so perceptible in the chapel as to make me almost suppose they were smoking there." Their contiguity to one of the criminal yards is another reason for either the total discontinuance of the practice, or its restriction within very narrow limits. Since the former inspection a very beneficial measure has been carried into effect—that of enforcing regularity and decency of behaviour among the prisoners at meals. The provisions are now issued at each meal, with the exception of the onions, which might also be done; and a total stop has been put to the quarrelling and bartering, formerly so prevalent. Silence has been enjoined, and wardsmen appointed to maintain order, and for the purposes of cleaning; they enjoy no privilege, save that of cessation from labour at the wheel, while employed in their necessary duties. The chaplain, keeper, and other officers, speak in the highest terms of the result of this change, and the day-rooms themselves bear ample testimony of its efficacy, by their improved appearance. The tread-wheels still continue in their inconvenient lateral positions, and are the perpetual sources of disorder; by far the greatest number of breaches of discipline are committed there; the prisoners are well aware that their situation is such while on the wheel as to defy inspection, and take every advantage. I recommend most strongly their alteration, which might be effected, I should think, at no very considerable expense.

Health.—The health of the prisoners, with the exception of the influenza and occasional cases of scurvy, is described by the surgeon as having been generally good. He considers the diet as insufficient, after a period of six months' confinement, for such prisoners as are sentenced to long terms, and that animal food is indispensably requisite to keep them in health. He states, "I never change the diet, except with those in the hospital; I have not the power to do it. When men exhibit symptoms of debility only, I do not consider myself authorized to interfere and order them a better diet." I visited the hospital in company with the surgeon, and with reference to the adoption of a more nutritious diet for prisoners for long terms, it appeared to be strongly supported by the annexed cases of two prisoners whom I saw there: of the propriety of this, from the various opportunities I have had of forming an opinion, I am most fully satisfied, and strongly recommend to the magistrates.

"——— was committed to this prison the 27th September, 1836, and was tried on the 1st of April, 1837, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. He has been under my professional care for six months, and is now become dropsical. He is so much debilitated that I am decidedly of opinion that he cannot long survive.

"——— was committed on the 25th of February, 1837, and tried on the first of April. He was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour, but he is in a rapid decline, and has never been in a state to endure any labour. Both these prisoners were in apparent good health when they were committed."

The surgeon is now present at all corporal punishments; the necessity for such attendances is well exemplified in the following extracts from his journal:—

"——— This man is in such a debilitated state, that he is incapable of working at the mill, and is not in a state to be flogged, as ordered by the court.

I annex a return of the deaths which have taken place in the prison during the last four years, with the diseases and lengths of confinement.

Names.	Age.	When Committed.	Disease.	Died.	In Custody.	No. of Deaths.	Total.
J. M.	20	1833 Sept. 28 ...	Decline . . .	1834 March 21...	5 months 23 days.	1	1
S. R.	60	1833 May 11	Apoplexy . . .	1835 May 19	2 years 8 days.	1	2
M. N.	48	1835 April 27....	After an operation for Hernia.	July 11	2 months 15 days.	1	
H. C.	18	1836 Feb. 26....	Decline . . .	August 24 ..	6 months 5 days.	1	2
S. H.	46	June 7.....	Ditto . . .	November 1	4 months 25 days.	1	
W. D.	24	1836 Nov. 3.....	Influenza . . .	1837 Feb. 13	3 months 10 days.	1	3
G. B.	21	August 15..	Decline . . .	March 8....	6 months 24 days.	1	
J. B.	31	Nov. 16....	Rapid Decline.	August 3...	8 months 18 days.	1	

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The chaplain continues to perform his duties in the same exemplary manner, oftentimes detaining him from seven to eight hours in the interior of the prison. The number of prisoners who have come under the notice and instruction of the chaplain since February, 1826, to the 18th of October, 1837, is 5100; of these

1857 could not read.
293 barely knew the alphabet.
667 could read imperfectly, but not understand.

2817
844 could read in the Testament, but not write.
1439 could read and write.

5100

The chaplain states, "Each turnkey renders an account of absentees from chapel in the class under their charge, which are entered into another book kept by himself. There is very little misconduct now going on in the day-rooms, the scene of all the disorder is the mill. Prisoners under sentence of death are placed in the condemned cells in the keep. I have had a room adjoining fitted up for me, and when temporarily absent the schoolmaster takes my place, so that they are never left without instruction or attendance. I am confident, next to death is the dread of transportation: I have heard men say, You may as well take my life as the rest of my liberty. An execution in the gaol has always an impressive effect. The chapel on one occasion was a scene of great affliction; in fact, there were only two men who were not powerfully affected. It was the morning of execution, and those about to suffer wished to take leave of their fellow prisoners. One of the prisoners was so overcome as not to be able to leave the chapel without assistance. After the execution is over they see the dead bodies, and pass by them in classes. I take the opportunity of impressing upon particular individuals the probable result of their continuing in their evil courses. The impression lasts for a considerable time. On leaving the prison months afterwards, I have adverted to it, and they have said, 'O no, sir, I shall never forget that.' I do not preach a condemned sermon, but expatiate upon the principal causes which seem to have led to the miserable conditions of the condemned prisoners, and continue the subject, and expostulate further on it, upon the succeeding Sabbath."

A new schoolmaster has been appointed in the room of the late one, who has undertaken the charge of one of the Union poor-houses. He is 27 years of age, and was educated at the national school, Norwich; has been in gentlemen's service. He thus details his mode of instruction:—"I give a prisoner who does not know his letters an alphabet, and repeat it several times over with him. On the convicted side I am not assisted by a prisoner; the untried instruct each other, and, not being at labour, get on faster than those left solely to the schoolmaster. Occasionally prisoners refuse to be taught. Sometimes, when near the expiration of their sentences of confinement, they get careless, and commit faults, with the idea of having but a short time to stop they may do so with impunity." The chaplain takes the classes and examines them alternately, to satisfy himself of their progress. The schoolmaster enters in a book daily the disposal of his time while in the performance of his duties.

The following is an extract:—

November 27, 1837.

Half-past eight, cells and classes.
Nine to two, chaplain.
Three to four, class four.
Five to seven, front gate.

I examined several of the prisoners, and they appeared to have made considerable progress in reading, but there was a general deficiency in their understanding what they read. The schoolmaster, although conversant with the Scriptures, makes no attempt to explain even the most simple parts, and thereby loses the advantage of a powerful stimulus to exertion in the mind of the scholar.

Prisoners examined by inspector as to their progress in school:—

J. C. Has been confined 12 months, read very little when he was committed, does so now well.

W. C. Has been eight months, did not know his letters, reads very well. He says, "I am very much obliged to the gentleman; it would have been a good thing if I had been in three years ago."

C. W. Age 21. Has been in 11 months, just knew his letters, now reads well. He says, "I am happy in having learnt to read."

H. T. Eleven months, did not know his letters, now reads well, but does not understand.

Expenditure.

Expenditure from Midsummer, 1836, to Midsummer, 1837, including Disbursements for the restoration of the old Castle and for the Shire Hall:—

	£.	s.	d.
Salaries and extra help	1341	1	0
93,135 loaves of bread, 1 lb. each . . .	623	11	4
2987½ lbs. of cheese	92	14	8
Carried forward . .	2057	7	0

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward . .	2057	7	0
Butter, sugar, treacle, &c.	4	9	8
Oatmeal, salt, &c.	5	8	1
19,318 pints of milk	93	6	2
Christmas dinner to prisoners	10	17	0
Nurses for sick prisoners	46	9	8
Clothes, blankets, coals, and other necessaries	574	2	8
Repairs	548	8	9
Conveying transports	238	16	4
Conveying prisoners to various places . .	28	6	0
Restoration of old castle	1362	8	10
	4970	0	2
Deduct prisoners' earnings	53	13	0
	£ 4916	7	2

Average number of prisoners 137½.

Average cost of food per head 6*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

The books appeared upon inspection to be accurately and neatly kept.

General Discipline.—The improved discipline of this prison manifested by the trifling advance made towards the enforcement of the silence system, seems to invite the magistrates to a further progress. Solitary confinement by sentence of court is enforced by placing the prisoner in the ordinary sleeping cells, where he is not cut off from the possibility of all communication. The keep, I think, seems a preferable situation for the infliction of this punishment.

I annex a copy of the chaplain's valuable report to the quarter sessions for the year 1836, and extracts from the one for 1837.

To the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions of Norfolk, held at the Shire Hall, October 19th, 1836.

Sir,

Since I had last the honour of reporting to the magistrates of Norfolk the state of the county gaol, their recommendation of the silent system, passed at the October sessions of 1835, has been carried into effect in the convict classes of the castle so far as circumstances will permit, and with evidently beneficial results. Silence, which to a certain extent has been exacted in this prison for several years, is now more strictly enforced. The convicts, when assembled together in their day-rooms or airing-yards, whether it be to eat their meals, to take their exercise, or to read the books that are put into their hands, are not allowed to speak to each other on any pretence whatever. Since this increased check to contaminating intercourse has been adopted, I have witnessed an increase of instances of apparently good effects resulting from the instruction afforded the prisoners. On leaving the gaol they seem more seriously impressed with religious truths, and a greater proportion of them speak of viewing the former course of their lives in a different light from what they had hitherto considered it, and of their determination to follow the advice given them for that purpose. As all other causes, likely to influence their minds, remain the same, I am necessarily led to attribute this improvement wholly to the increased difficulty which is thrown in the way of the most abandoned, who are ever too ready to laugh the better disposed out of their serious impressions, and to advise them to disregard the exhortations of the chaplain. The only opportunities they now have for this mischievous intercourse are whilst they are working at the tread-wheels, or confined in their night cells. Although in these situations they are placed under considerable restraint, yet, unless much expense be incurred in altering the position of the wheels so as to afford the taskmaster a more perfect inspection, and in employing a watch throughout the night, the prisoners will still in some degree possess the means of contaminating communication.

Of the 4800 prisoners entered upon my books, who have been placed under regular instruction, 1351, when first committed, could read and write; 802 could only read (in the Testament); 629 could read imperfectly; and 2018 could neither read nor write.

During the past year the conduct of the prisoners has been orderly and respectful, and their attention to the prison instruction and their consequent improvement generally satisfactory. Although they too often disappoint the hopes entertained of their reformation, yet there can be no doubt, from the testimony of others, but that in many instances the blessing of God has rested on the good impressions they have received in prison, and which has been seen in the permanent improvement of their conduct, when means have been afforded them of obtaining an honest livelihood. There is scarcely, indeed, a more pitiable object of commiseration, than the convict on his immediate release from prison, who has seen the error of his ways, and earnestly desires to direct his steps into the paths of honesty and peace; but who, as the natural consequence of his past conduct, is on all sides received with suspicion, and repulsed from every honest endeavour to provide for himself and family, and favoured with no cheering smile of encouragement to persevere in good resolutions; whilst the companions of his former guilt stand prepared to take advantage of his forlorn and destitute condition, and to entice him back into their society and crimes. To provide the means of restoration to a better course of life for such a returning prodigal, is, I am well aware from long experience, too often attended with great difficulty, if not with the hazard of mortifying failure. Still no one stands in greater need of assistance and encouragement; and no charitable endeavours could be more beneficial to the immediate object of them, or more conducive to the public good: for I verily believe,

that many of those who have left the gaol professing a determination to forsake their crimes, but have afterwards returned to their former vicious course of life, would have adhered to their better intentions had opportunities been presented of further cultivating the good seed sown, and of providing such employment as might have preserved them from idle habits and the baneful influence of profligate companions.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

Extract from Chaplain's Report, dated 18th October, 1837 :—

"I have great satisfaction in reporting the progress the prisoners have made in their instruction. This will, perhaps, appear best from the following analysis of those who are confined in that part of the gaol which is used as a house of correction. On that side of the prison there are now 72 convicts; of these, when they were first committed, only 28 could read a chapter in the Bible, the other 14 could read a little, but not well enough to gain any information from it, while 30 could not read at all. With respect to their religious knowledge, 36 of them could repeat the Lord's Prayer and the Apostle's Creed, of whom 6 only had ever known the Catechism, but had almost entirely forgotten it; other 24 could repeat the Lord's Prayer, but not the Creed; 9 could repeat only a part of the Lord's Prayer, and 3 were destitute of even this slender portion of instruction.

"At this time 43 of these 72 convicts are reading in their Bible, and 5 in portions of Scripture selected from it; 10 can read imperfectly; 8 are spelling easy words, or have learnt the alphabet; and 6 are incapable of either of these, having, as well as the preceding 8, been very recently committed.

"With respect to their religious instruction, there is not one of them who cannot now repeat the Lord's Prayer, and only 4 who are not perfect in the Creed; 16 are learning such private morning and evening prayers and graces as may be useful to them when they leave the prison; 7 are learning their Catechism, whilst 20, who have gone through with all these previous parts of the instruction, are learning Crossman's Explanation of the Catechism; 13 who have learnt by rote the whole of Crossman, are learning the Collects of the book of Common Prayer; and the remaining 8 having repeated the whole of these, have learnt by heart also several chapters of the gospels—one 23, and three 15 chapters each. One of these three was committed so recently as the 22d of April last. All this instruction has been obtained at their intervals of rest, and without loss of labour.

"I have every reason to believe that this increase of moral and religious information will not be unattended by its proper effects on the future conduct of these prisoners. They are at all times respectful in their behaviour, and in their daily attendance at chapel particularly decorous and attentive."

WYMONDHAM.—HOUSE OF CORRECTION FOR FEMALES.

Since my last visit the fabric has been put in repair, gutters have been added to the roofs so as to allow the rain water to run clear from the building, and there is not that appearance of damp noticed on the former occasion. Luffer boards for ventilation have been placed over the privies. The keeper has ceased to supply the milk for the use of the prisoners. On the day of inspection the prisoners present were two for trial, three convicted at sessions, one at assizes, and one summarily. The prison was clean and orderly. The surgeon states "the health of the prisoners to be good; that the diarrhœa formerly prevalent has ceased. He considers the diet sufficient for six months, but not longer. There has been one death." The prisoners under summary convictions, and before trial, are placed in separate cells, but are allowed to take exercise in the same yards. The chaplain does not visit them, nor is there any system of instruction carried on, and their confinement appears to me much more severe than that of the convicted felons, who are associated together in washing the male prisoners' linen sent from Norwich Castle. The situation of these prisoners appears to me to call for increased attention on the part of the chaplain and officers. Some endeavour should be made to instruct them in moral and religious duties, nor should they be left without some manual employment.

Expenditure from Midsummer 1836, to Midsummer 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
Salaries	277	19	0
Bread, 387 score 11 loaves	54	16	0
Cheese, 303½ lbs.	8	17	0
Butter, tea, oatmeal, salt	3	3	9
Milk, 1,830 pints	7	12	6
Diet and porter for sick	5	4	11
Clothing, coals, bedding, &c.	106	1	4
Repairs	28	12	11
Conveying prisoners to hulks	7	12	0
„ for trial	25	10	9
„ for examination	5	10	3
	£ 531	0	5

Average number of prisoners 19.
Average cost for food per head to 4*l.* 3*s.* 7½*d.*
The bread is of two qualities, white and brown, as supplied at the Castle, Norwich. The prisoners have the option of taking which they prefer, gaining two ounces in weight by selecting the brown, such being the estimated difference in the value.

Wymondham. House of Correction for Females.

Swaffham. House of Correction.

SWAFFHAM.—HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Inspected this prison the 24th of November, 1837. The prisoners then present were—for trial, 9; for further examination, 1; summary convictions, 15; convicted felons, 13; convicted misdemeanants, 1. The interior was remarkably clean and orderly. Since my last Report, several beneficial regulations and alterations have taken place. The tread-wheels have been partitioned for separate labour, and more complete means for the inspection of the prisoners been obtained by the removal of the iron railing in front, and connecting the two wheels by a passage. The silence system has been further enforced by the convicted prisoners taking their meals together in rooms fitted up for the purpose; each prisoner sits at the table with his face to the wall. The prisoners for trial are kept in separate cells, but take exercise daily in the yard for three hours, or longer when practicable, and are also employed in drawing water. The time formerly allowed them for exercise was but half an hour a-day. Two wardsmen only are employed in the prison, and these are engaged in cleaning and removing the blankets and rugs from the beds, and suspending them on brackets fixed in the walls of the adjoining passages. The turnkeys are on watch two hours each during the night, walking through the passages and preserving silence, for which three of them receive 3*s.* 6*d.* a-week, in addition to their wages. They also go round in the evening, and as a security against escape remove the prisoners' clothing from the cells. There appears to have been but four cases of punishment since the silence system was enforced on the 29th of August to the present date the 24th of November, with an average of 23 prisoners.

Under the head of moral and religious instruction I have to report with much satisfaction the appointment of a schoolmaster. His duty is performed under the superintendance and direction of the chaplain. When a prisoner is committed, the chaplain questions him relative to the circumstances of his case and connexions; and if he desires to be instructed enters his name in the schoolmaster's book, and a mark is made by the schoolmaster against the name daily, as having heard him repeat a lesson. This book is laid upon the chaplain's desk every morning, and he frequently examines the prisoners personally to satisfy himself of their progress. The prisoners are not taken from their labour, but are attended by the schoolmaster during the intervals of rest from the wheel, over which he also acts as watchman. He also attends the prisoners for trial in their cells. During the time allotted for meals the schoolmaster reads the lessons for the morrow, that the attention of the prisoners may be drawn thereto, previous to hearing them the next morning in the chapel. The prisoners themselves also read from the Bible. The schoolmaster says, "The prisoners are for the most part very ignorant, and cannot answer even the simplest question. A great many of the prisoners desire to be taught. One man only has refused; he said it was of no use for he had nobody to instruct him when at home. He was only committed for two months." I examined one of the prisoners, who appeared to have made considerable progress in reading. The sacrament has been administered four times since the Inspector's last visit in 1835. The chaplain transmits with the convicts sentenced to transportation his observations on their conduct and character, of which the following are copies:—

Removed after the October Sessions.

B. I consider B.'s case a very pitiable one, as he has had a bad example set him at home. He has been unable from his occupation to attend public worship regularly. His abilities are good. During his confinement before trial he learned a Morning and Evening Prayer, and all the sections in Crossman's Introduction, with the exception of the four first, which he had previously learned in the Swaffham National School. He appears penitent, and if he can be kept from further contamination I hope he may be reclaimed.

C. When in confinement last year C. learned a Morning and Evening Prayer, and 16 sections in Crossman's Introduction. Since trial he has been troubled with fits, which have prevented his making much progress; he has, however, learned five sections.

H. Usually attends the Methodist chapel. Has heard favourable accounts of the condition of men when transported, and appears to dread his punishment very little.

These men have been attentive in chapel.

Sophia Y. This woman is very violent, and refuses to listen to my advice.

Removed after the January Sessions.

S. Great pains were taken with this man when in confinement at Norwich, but unfortunately without producing any beneficial result.

C. Has begun to learn to read, but is very dull. Says he stole the hat after getting drunk at Swaffham races.

T. Usually attends the Methodist chapel. Has begun to learn to read, and has made some progress,

P. I fear this man's habits have been bad since he was last in prison, as what he then learned he has now forgotten.

H. Appears more penitent than any of the others.

C., P., T., and S., have received parochial relief. They have never been confirmed.

C., T., and H., could not repeat the Lord's Prayer or the Belief, when they first entered the prison.

All these men have behaved properly in chapel.

Removed after the Spring Sessions.

R. Appears anxious to learn to read, and has made considerable progress. Was so ignorant on religious subjects when he first entered the prison, as to tell me that he thought Jesus Christ was crucified because he had done something wrong.

L. Has learned a Morning and Evening Prayer during his confinement.

G. Has not attended public worship more than three times since he left this prison in 1832. I am afraid he has imbibed principles of infidelity.

A. Irregular in his attendance at public worship. A stupid man, and very ignorant of his religious duties.

M. Attends the Methodist chapel. Is much better informed than most of the men I see in the prison. Has some knowledge of arithmetic and geography. Since trial he has learned a Morning and Evening Prayer, and 16 sections of Crossman's Introduction to the Knowledge of the Christian Religion.

G. and A. have received parochial relief.

R., G., and A., have not been confirmed.

R. could not repeat either the Lord's Prayer or the Belief when he first entered the prison.

A. could not repeat the Belief.

These men have behaved properly in chapel.

S.—Wishes to learn to read, and has made some progress; very ignorant; has received parochial relief; could not repeat the Lord's Prayer or the Belief when he first entered the prison; has behaved properly in chapel.

Health.—The alteration made by the magistrates in the diet at the inspector's last visit does not appear to have been attended with all the beneficial results which were expected. By the following statement it will be seen that cases of scurvy are still of constant occurrence in the prison, although said to be but rarely met with by practitioners in the county.

RETURN of the NUMBER and DESCRIPTION of DISEASES which have occurred in the House of Correction at Swaffham, between 25th October, 1836, and 24th November, 1837, as extracted from the Surgeon's Journal.

Scurvy.	Debility.	Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Bowel Complaints.	Influenza and Coughs.	Pleurisy and Inflammation of the Lungs.	Fever.	Erysipelas.
15	7	12	24	3	4	1
Total 69.						

There has been one death from inflammation of the lungs, the prisoner being but a few days in prison. The surgeon states, "I consider the diet sufficient in quantity, but not in kind. Its want of variety, the severity of the cold, and the influence of confinement upon the mind, are, I think, causes to which the appearance of scurvy may be traced. The symptoms I have remarked, seldom or never make their appearance until the fifth month of imprisonment, unless the party has been confined before, and there are very few who do not exhibit more or less the signs of it in debility, spongy gums, and petechiæ, between the fifth and sixth month. I have found carbonic acid gas combined with a bitter, in the form of an effervescing draught, with the acid rather predominating, useful in the early stage. The hardworking agricultural labourer, and the journeyman mechanic in the rural districts of the county, seldom taste meat or beer above once a-week, and this is more particularly the case as regards the former. I conceive that a more vegetable diet should be given at the end of three months' confinement, and meat twice or thrice a-week at the expiration of twelve. I consider also the diseases of the prisoners influenced in a degree by the cold." The surgeon visits the prison daily, and his journal is arranged under the following heads:—Date—No.—infirmary cases—slight indisposition—disease—observations.

I am quite satisfied that the dietary of this prison is insufficient in quality after four months' imprisonment with hard labour: the case here identifies itself with that of the county gaol at Cambridge and other places. All means of checking this disease are hopeless, but through the instrumentality of a greater variety of food, and attention being paid to the temperature of the building, should it at all be under the influence of a damp locality. On going through the sleeping cells of this prison I have always remarked the dampness of the bed mats, they have appeared almost saturated with moisture; and looking also at the number of the catarrhal affections in the surgeon's journal, the warming of the prison in inclement weather would I have no doubt be salutary. The amount of extra diet and porter ordered by the surgeon for the last year in this prison, upon an average of 48 prisoners, was no less than 37*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.*

Accounts, Expenditure.

The expenditure from Midsummer 1836, to Midsummer 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
Salaries	639	4	0
32,173 loaves of bread of 1 lb. each	224	13	4
Butter	8	13	7
Oatmeal, salt &c.	10	1	4
Vegetables	3	5	10
Diet, porter, &c., ordered by the surgeon	37	1	1
Clothing, blankets, coals, &c., and the keeper's disbursements	162	9	10
Repairs	171	18	4
The keeper, for conveying transports	132	19	10
,, ,, prisoners for trial	95	3	6
,, ,, ,, for examination.	43	2	6
The keeper, for sundry expenses	12	9	0
	1541	2	2
Deduct tread-wheel earnings	18	16	6
	£1522	5	8

On looking over the keeper's accounts, I find no book is kept, nor daily entry made of the extra diet ordered by the surgeon for the sick. The keeper supplies the extra diet, at the rate of 10*d.* a head; it consists of a meat dumpling, or a dumpling and meat, and is given in addition to the ordinary diet. The beer is obtained from a public-house as wanted. I think this very irregular, and that a book should be kept by the keeper for the insertion of these disbursements as they occur. The descriptions of the prisoners upon their committal are loosely endorsed on the warrant, instead of being entered in a book for this purpose; I recommend a form similar to that in use at the county gaols at Huntingdon and Cambridge. The keeper receives sundry allowances, which I conceive it would be better to discontinue, such as earnings from the tread-wheel, mending linen, shoeing of prisoners, &c.

General Discipline.—The discipline of this prison has improved since my last visit. Under the head of moral and religious instruction I have no deficiencies to remark; those referring to the health of the prisoners, and the accounts, will be seen in their respective places. The keeper does not attend Divine service, nor has he done so since the inspector's last visit, two years ago. I do not find in his journal any entry of his absences from the prison. The turnkeys in this prison appear to me more in the condition of menial servants to the keeper, than officers charged with the superintendence and commanding the respect of prisoners. One cleans his shoes, knives and forks, another attends to his horses, and the general term by which he is known amongst them is "master." I am strongly of opinion that the appointment of all officers should be in the justices, and am the more confirmed in this opinion by the following evidence of one of the turnkeys:—

"———, appointed 1837, resides in the prison, sleeps in the harness house; his wages are 10*l.* a-year for himself, and 10*l.* a-year for his wife, who is the keeper's cook. He boards in the keeper's house." The keeper states in explanation, "He is allowed by the county 30*l.* a-year for a turnkey and mill-watch, that he boards him in the prison, and gives him 20*l.* a-year, that his wife is his cook." The keeper, for the conveyance of prisoners to examination, trial, and the hulks, keeps two horses and a pony, which are groomed by one of the turnkeys, and the magistrates allow him to charge the same rate as if obtained by hire, viz., 12*s.* for a single horse to Lynn, expenses of the horse 1*s.* 6*d.*, and himself 5*s.* He conveys convicts at the rate of the outside coach fares, and receives moreover 9*l.* as a gratuity for himself and assistant. He lodges the convicts on their way to Woolwich, being two nights on the road, at the gaols at Newton in Essex, and Horsemonger-lane, where he pays 1*s.* a-head for their lodging. He takes bread with him, and gives them a small quantity of beer. I find that female prisoners under examination are detained in this prison occasionally for a few days, and during this period are placed in the refractory cell, which, from its want of light and ventilation, is scarcely a proper place. One female, contrary to the general practice of the prison, was committed here for trial on the 25th of October, and remained until taken to the hulks, on the 16th December. The establishment of the prison since the introduction of the silence system consists of—

	Salaries. £.	s.	d.
Keeper	200	0	0
Chaplain	200	0	0
Surgeon	60	0	0
Turnkey 65*l.*, for watching 9*l.* 2*s.*	74	2	0
Ditto 36*l.* 8*s.*, for ditto 9*l.* 2*s.*	45	10	0
*Ditto	30	0	0
Schoolmaster 36*l.* 8*s.*, for ditto 9*l.* 2*s.*	45	10	0
Miller	52	0	0

* This turnkey, referred to in another part of the Report as boarding in the keeper's house, takes his turn in watching with the other turnkeys, but does not receive the weekly allowance of 3*s.* 6*d.*

The entire of the officers speak most favourably of the efficiency of the silence system, and I annex the valuable reports made by the chaplain to the quarter sessions for the last two years as referring thereto, and to the general discipline of this establishment, and the state and condition of the prisoners.

SIR,

The following table exhibits in a short form the results of my inquiries made of the prisoners in the year ending October 20th, 1836:—

Number of convicted prisoners who could read at the period of their commitment.	Number who could write.	Number unable to read.	Number unable to write.	Number unable to repeat the Lord's Prayer.	Number unable to repeat the Belief.	Number who have not been confirmed, though of sufficient age.
75	41	120	154	77	120	117

Of the whole number of convicted prisoners, 127 have received parochial relief, in other words, 13 of every 20 are paupers. There has been a falling off in the number of commitments during the past year, as compared with 1835, amounting to almost one-seventh. The average of the last 10 years is also greater than this year's number, but in 1826, 1828, 1830, and 1832, we had a smaller number committed than in this year. The decrease of crime in 1836 is principally to be ascribed to a greater facility in procuring employment. Since the last Michaelmas sessions the prison inspectors have made their first reports, but as these probably are in the hands of most of the magistrates, it may be considered unnecessary for me to make any remarks upon them. There is, however, one point, in the very able and elaborate report drawn up by Messrs. Crawford and Russell, who visited Newgate, to which I think it may not be improper for me to allude. A total separation of the inmates of a prison is recommended, so that they shall not be able to see each other. The inspectors advance the following reasons for the propriety of this plan: the necessity of preventing contamination, and the security it affords the prisoner when discharged against the fear or injury of recognition. As to the first reason, the necessity of preventing contamination, this, it appears to me, may be provided for as effectually by rigidly enforcing silence, and confining the prisoners in single cells, as by the most complete separation. With respect to the second, though no one can be insensible to the hardship of a man's having his character injured by the knowledge that he has been in confinement, yet it is an evil which, in districts like ours, is quite unavoidable. A great majority of prisoners in agricultural districts return to their own parishes, where every one knows that they have been punished without being informed of the fact by any of their fellow convicts. A separation, therefore, of the prisoners to the extent recommended in the Newgate report would be of very little service in a rural prison, and could not be carried into effect without the expenditure of a large sum of money, as the prison at Swaffham, and many others similarly situated, are unfit, I fear, at present, for solitary confinement. I have been led to make these few remarks because the inspectors of Newgate have drawn up their report in a general way, and their recommendations seem to extend not only to the metropolitan prisons, but to all others.

I am, Sir,
Yours respectfully,

Swaffham, October 21st, 1836.

To the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, King's Lynn.

SIR,

I shall begin my annual report with the usual tabular statement.

Number of convicted prisoners who could read at the period of their commitment.	Number who could write.	Number unable to read.	Number unable to write.	Number unable to repeat the Lord's Prayer.	Number unable to repeat the Belief.	Number who have not been confirmed, though of sufficient age.
95	57	124	162	96	131	118

Of the whole number, 219, 96 have received parochial relief, and 85 have been irregular in their attendance at public worship.

In compliance with the recommendation of a committee of the House of Lords, the visiting magistrates have appointed a schoolmaster to instruct those prisoners who are desirous of learning to read. As I consider I am in some measure responsible for the due discharge of this officer's duty, I enter the name of each prisoner who wishes to learn in a small book, and a mark in pencil is made by the schoolmaster every day opposite the name when he hears the lesson. Should he be absent from his duty, I also require him to enter the reason of his absence. This book is inspected by me every morning. In order to be certain that no neglect takes place I frequently examine the prisoners myself, and I have great pleasure in being able to state that the schoolmaster performs his duty in a satisfactory manner.

The silent system, which has been in operation for the last three months, appears to be quite efficacious in preventing contamination, and is a great improvement on the old plan of classifi-

Swaffham. House of Correction.

cation. Great attention is paid to my advice, and the men's minds are more disposed to receive religious impressions. It is to be feared, however, that much of its beneficial effect will be destroyed unless some means are taken for increasing the number of cells. When three men sleep together, I think no vigilance on the part of the turnkeys on watch can prevent their occasionally holding conversation. It is proper to state that no inconvenience has at present arisen from this source, as the number of prisoners has fallen short of the number of cells. But this state of things cannot reasonably be expected always to continue, for no year has passed during the period of my chaplainship without the number of prisoners, in some part of it, exceeding that of the cells. I am aware that an order of sessions was made some time ago for dividing the old cells, and that the visiting magistrates were obliged, in consequence of a circular from the Home Office, to suspend all alterations. At that time it was expected that a general plan for the construction and regulation of all prisons might be formed. This expectation seems now to be abandoned, the inspectors being divided in opinion as to the comparative merits of the separate and the silent system. The Home Secretary, therefore, is now only "anxious to see the system of separation adopted in all new prisons, and, as far as it is practicable, in those already constructed." In the bridewell at Swaffham the system of separation could not be introduced; but as the objections urged against the silent system, when considered with reference to a district and prison like ours, have in my mind but little weight, I think if such an addition could be made to the number of cells as to obviate the necessity of putting three men together, nearly all the advantages of the separate system might be obtained.

I am, Sir,
Yours respectfully,

Swaffham, October 20th, 1837. ——— ———.

To the Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, King's Lynn.

WALSINGHAM.—House of Correction.

Walsingham. House of Correction.

This prison is extremely well managed, and reflects great credit upon the magistrates intrusted with the supervision, and the officers employed in the more active duties of its government.

Since the inspector's last visit, the tread-wheels have been partitioned for separate labour; a new chapel has been erected, and the old one converted to the purpose of an infirmary. The new chapel appears to be damp, the mats and prayer-books were covered with mildew; it is deficient in light, and the chaplain cannot see the congregation from the desk. It is divided into three pens, two for males, and one for females. The new infirmary requires a boarded floor, and the roof to be ceiled. The working of the silence system has been further perfected by discontinuing the services of prisoners as monitors, and only two, as wardsmen, are now employed in cleaning the prison. An additional officer has been placed on the establishment, as watch over the tread-wheel. The daily routine of duty is gone through in the following order.

Unlock as soon as it is light, and the men let down to wash, following each other at a considerable distance between the files. They then go to the wheel and work till half-past eight; then to breakfast, and walk in files in the yard till chapel time, a little after nine; after chapel they return to labour until twelve. The untried, and those not sentenced to labour, go to their cells. The untried take their walking exercise of never less than half an hour before breakfast, half an hour before dinner, and half an hour after. The convicted men, not sentenced to hard labour, walk by themselves, and at different hours, to prevent communication. They return to labour at one, and are rang off the wheel before dark for supper, and locked up at five. There are lights in all the passages during the night. Four of the officers take it in turns to watch the prisoners until ten. The two night watchmen then come on, and one turnkey sits up the whole night to see that they perform their duty. On Sundays the whole of the prisoners are mustered in the intervals between chapel service, and examined by the keeper as to their personal cleanliness and appearance.

Health.—The surgeon states, "That cases of scurvy occasionally occur. He has met with the disease in his private practice among the humbler classes. The health of the prisoners has been generally good since the inspector's last visit; half a pound of cheese issued weekly used to form a part of the prisoner's ration; half a pound of beef has been substituted with marked good effect. To prisoners, after six months' confinement, a pint of milk is allowed daily, and vegetables added to the weekly allowance of meat. There have been two deaths.

"J. T., aged 28, deformed, and subject to asthma, committed on a charge of arson 21st September, 1836, died of influenza 23d February, 1837.

"D. B., aged 23, in good health when first in custody, committed for a breach of the game laws 17th January, 1837, died of typhus, having first been attacked with the prevailing influenza 12th, February 1837.

"There has been a case of insanity in a female prisoner, resulting from great mental depression, and occurring a few days after her committal. She was observed to be depressed upon coming in, and was placed with another prisoner in consequence. She had been in better circumstances, was committed for a theft through distress, and the disgrace appeared to operate very greatly upon her mind. It was a total aberration of intellect; she brought in her child, but appeared to be insensible, and to have lost all knowledge of it. Instances of depression are not uncommon where it would be quite unsafe to trust prisoners by themselves, as in the case of the female I have mentioned. Our prisoners, chiefly of the agricultural class, would, I am convinced, if placed in separate cells without exercise, remain in health but

a very short time. A landsman will not, from habit, pace a room and take exercise in it, as a sailor will on a deck. Many of the prisoners express a great horror of being shut up alone, and desire to be placed on the wheel. Men imprisoned for two years become broken down, and indifferent whether they live or not. The silent system is much more severe than the former one, and the magistrates have, in consequence, diminished the length of imprisonment. There is nothing now to affect the health of the prisoners in the system, on the contrary, the plan of the prisoners dining together is much preferable; they used to be eating in their cells at all times; now all is regular, and they acquire better habits. The following is a list of the cases and diseases which have occurred in the prison from the 1st of October, 1836, to the 16th of November, 1837, as extracted from the surgeon's journal:—

Infirmary cases 8 males, 4 females.
Slight ditto 65 „ 13 „

Infirmary Cases.		Diseases.
Males	1	Diseased liver.
	3	Influenza and typhus.
	1	Bilious cholera.
	1	Diabetes.
	1	Dropsy.
	1	Debility.
Females	1	Child-birth and influenza.
	1	Insanity.
	1	Scurvy.
	1	Erysipelas.

Accounts, Expenditure, Books.

Expenditure from Midsummer 1836, to Midsummer 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
Salaries	771	2	11
2,743 stone of bread, 13 lbs. each	302	7	6
Cheese	1	3	9
Butter, tea, &c.	1	15	10
Oatmeal, salt, &c.	8	10	11
2,971 pints of milk	12	15	11
For sick prisoners,			
Wine and porter 3 19 6			
Vegetables 4 2 5			
Meat 1 17 11			
	9	19	10
Meat for working prisoners	18	16	4
Christmas Dinner	1	15	10
Clothing, blankets, coals, and other necessaries	127	5	10
Repairs	223	2	6
Conveying transports	59	18	2
„ prisoners for trial	37	1	3
„ „ for examination	42	12	9
	£1618	9	4
Deduct tread-mill earnings	46	13	3
	£1572	16	1

Average number of prisoners 51⅓. Average cost of food per head 6*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*

The accounts of this prison are kept with minute and praiseworthy accuracy. The bills, with a schedule similar to the one annexed, are laid before the quarter sessions, and discharged by the treasurer himself quarterly, according to the terms of the order.

SCHEDULE OF BILLS.

The County of Norfolk, Dr.

For Disbursements, Salaries, &c., at Walsingham Bridewell, from Michaelmas to Christmas Quarter, 1836.

Chaplain's, Surgeon's, Gaoler's, &c., Salaries.	£.	s.	d.
Rev. J. D. Crofts, one quarter's salary	50	0	0
Hugh Rump, surgeon, ditto ditto	17	10	0
Money Curtis, keeper, ditto ditto	50	0	0
Margaret Curtis, matron, ditto ditto	6	5	0
Haddon Adcock, clerk, ditto ditto	2	11	6
John Allen, first turnkey, his ditto	4	7	6
George Minns, lately discharged, leaving due to him	5	11	4
Henry Woodgate, second turnkey, his salary	9	18	0
William Woodcock, third ditto, ditto	8	16	0
Maria Die, female turnkey, her salary	4	19	0
Edmund Jarrett, taskmaster, his salary	11	0	0
C. J. Todd's bill, assistant turnkey, per order-book	2	10	1
Carried forward	173	8	5

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT. Reports on Separate Prisons. Walsingham. House of Correction.

The Silent System.			£.	s.	d.
Brought forward			173	8	5
Messrs. Thomas Powell, and George Christopher, their bills for night watching			6	1	0
John Horsford, his bill for night watching			5	15	6
William Priest, ditto ditto			3	6	0
Maintenance.					
Josiah Bull, for bread	94 14 8				
Thomas Curson, for grocery	2 17 5				
Holsworth Dawson, for milk	4 3 5				
Ann Daines, for vegetables	2 0 10				
Thomas Tweedy, for meat	4 16 8				
John Gamble, for porter for sick prisoners, per order of surgeon	1 1 6				
			109	14	6
Apparel, Bedding, &c.					
Thomas Curson, for clothing	2 8 0				
Messrs. George and William Seaman, for ditto	1 10 4				
Thomas Curson, for sundries	2 18 0				
Thomas Dent, for candles	4 4 6				
James Pawley, for leather, &c.	3 11 7				
			14	12	5
William Spooner, for coals			6	5	0
a Carriage of goods, parcels, postage, &c.			1	12	2
a Prisoners, on discharge			0	6	6
Repairs to Gaol, &c.					
William Priest, bricklayer	6 9 11				
Samuel Bobbitt, carpenter	9 0 10				
Ditto, balance of bill left due last quarter	0 18 6				
	9 19 4				
C. J. Todd, blacksmith	5 4 8				
			21	13	11
Shire-hall Repairs.					
Samuel Bobbitt, balance of his bill left due last quarter	1 13 3				
William Priest, bricklayer	1 15 3				
			3	8	6
Keeper's own Disbursements and Expenses allowed.					
a As per annexed bill of Mr. Curtis's			1	17	1
Removal and Conveyance of Prisoners.					
Including horsehire, &c.			24	8	9
Sundries, by Mr. Curtis.					
a Curson's bill for sundries to mill	0 2 10				
Bull's bill for pollard, &c.	0 1 11				
„ for Christmas dinners	1 15 10				
Paid for a door mat	0 0 6				
			2	1	1
		£	374	10	10

N. B.—The items marked (*a*) are accounted for more particularly by the keeper in his bill, and are paid to him.

Examined and allowed by us at the bridewell this ninth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

_____ } Magistrates.

At the general quarter sessions of the peace for the county of Norfolk, held by adjournment at Walsingham this thirteenth day of January, 1837, it was ordered that the treasurer of the county do pay unto the several persons whose names are within mentioned, the several sums of money set and placed against their respective names, in discharge of their several salaries, bills, disbursements, &c.

J. TOWNSHEND, Chairman.

General Discipline.—The results of the introduction of the silent system of discipline appear very striking in the reduction of the numbers of prisoners, as taken by me from the keeper's books, for four years last past, on days corresponding with that of my inspection the 24th of November, 1837.

1834, November 24th	73 males	8	females.
1835, „	64 „	5	„
1836, „	45 „	6	„
1837, „	40 „	5	„

The silent system was first introduced on August 16th, 1835.

The officers speak most favourably of the new discipline. The principal turnkey says, "There used to be a number of complaints from the monitors. I have heard the prisoners say they were unfairly treated. I think there is not much talking among them; they are never left. Since partitions have been placed on the wheel I do not think there is a word spoken there. The men, when at rest, sit alone and in a lateral position to the wheel. There has been no report for a considerable time. We are now enabled, in consequence of the reduction in our numbers, to sleep them all separately." The second turnkey says, "We get on very well now, I am quite sure they cannot corrupt each other. They are never left. Even with three in a cell they cannot talk for any time. Since the monitors have been done away with there is a great improvement in the prison. The prisoners are now satisfied."

I called in two of the prisoners and examined them separately. "I. A.—I have been in the prison twelve months. I think the officers are the best. I think a prisoner would say a great deal more than the truth for a bit of bread. I do not like prisoners as monitors; they ought to be doing something else. A boy who was a monitor reported me once for speaking to a man as I was passing. I am sure I never spoke a word, and would declare it before any magistrate in the world. He said I did, and I had my loaf stopped." "B. C. —I have been here twelve months. I think the monitors reported unfairly. I know the boy did not do his duty. I cannot read; I should like to have learned very much, and am sure I could have learned if any body could have been here to instruct me. Have been here before on the old system: it is very bad now." The keeper states, "I think it is better the monitors are done away with, the prisoners had a great antipathy to them. I will take upon myself to say that there is little communication takes place. When I have more than the cells will hold singly I place them in a day-room, fitted with double births and under the immediate inspection of the night watch. The punishments for breaches of silence and disorderly behaviour are generally the subtracting a third of the allowance of bread during three days."

The chaplain states, "I highly approve of the silent system. It certainly makes the men orderly; no outrageous conduct is now exhibited. I cannot believe that contamination exists among the prisoners, as lengthened communication is impossible. The prisoners are much more attentive and careful of their books; they used to deface them greatly. There is a most marked increase in the desire of the prisoners for instruction. We have no schoolmaster. Rather than they should go uninstructed, I am teaching eight myself. I keep an account of their progress. Even with these imperfect means several have learned to read and others have improved. It is quite astonishing how they fly to the books for employment. Of the eight alluded to, six either did not know their letters or but imperfectly, and are now fast advancing, and will have learned to read, their terms of imprisonment being for six months. The prisoners now appear to come to chapel with greatly increased pleasure. The officers attend divine service. The sacrament is administered every three months, and I am never without communicants. The females are not taught to read."

I recommend most strongly to the magistrates the appointment of a schoolmaster. The experience of the benefits arising from such an office in other establishments not a tithe so well regulated, induce me to the belief that, under such superior management, the results would not fail of being highly satisfactory. I annex the two last reports made by the chaplain to the quarter-sessions since the introduction of the silent system into the prison.

(Copy.)

Report of the Chaplain of Walsingham, Bridewell, to his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, assembled at the Quarter Session, held by adjournment at Little Walsingham, Friday, October 28th, 1836.

It is satisfactory to state that the conduct of the prisoners during the past year has been quiet and orderly; and I have no hesitation in saying, generally speaking, considerably improved under the "Silent System." The constant apprehension of the prisoners of being detected in any irregularity from the vigilant inspection which is adopted, cannot but be productive of great order and regularity in their general demeanour. Besides which, the adoption of the "Silent System" induces those prisoners who are able to read to pay much greater attention to their books than formerly; and that time which, by many, used to be employed in conversation, too often of an idle and contaminating nature, is now employed in religious, and, I trust, profitable reading. Indeed, their books are a refuge to which they are glad to fly for relief under the silence imposed upon them. A young man, who was imprisoned for a calendar month, assured me he had read the New Testament through *four* times during that period, which never would have been done had he had the option and opportunity of conversation.

The new system of course renders the confinement much more severe, and may, therefore, reasonably require shorter sentences in case of conviction.

The number of recommittals has been very much reduced this year, which it is fair to presume may have been caused, at least in some degree, by the introduction of the "Silent System." It is, indeed, altogether so productive of benefit that I should be very sorry to see it abandoned.

The number of prisoners committed during the past year, that is, from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836, was 427; of whom 158 were charged with, or convicted of, felony, and 269 of various misdemeanors; of which 53 were offences against the game laws, of the felon class 79 could read, and of the misdemeanor class 134. The greatest number at one time was 113.

I am encouraged to hope that much benefit is, in many instances, received by the prisoners from their regular and daily attendance on the religious duties of the prison. Several have

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acknowledged to me that they had never before heard so much about religion or so much thought of it.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper has been administered every quarter in the past year, and was attended by from six to eight prisoners.

(Copy.)

REPORT of the Chaplain of Walsingham Bridewell to her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, assembled at the Quarter Session, held by adjournment at Little Walsingham, Friday, October 27th, 1837.

IN making my annual Report, according to the Act, on the moral and religious condition of the prisoners who have come under my care in the Walsingham Bridewell during the past year, I trust I may safely say that I have met with only one who was ignorant of the obligations of religion, or insensible of his accountability as a moral being.

The attention of the prisoners at chapel is, with very slight exceptions, praiseworthy and pleasing; *orderly* they of course are from fear of punishment. The responses are made audibly and decenly; and those who are able follow me, in their several books, in the portions of scripture which are daily read.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, which is administered every quarter if there are any prisoners disposed and in a suitable condition to receive it, has not been without communicants this year.

It is gratifying to state that I rarely find a case of positive hardihood and disinclination to admit instruction and advice. I have reason to believe the prisoners regard me as their well-wisher, and desirous of promoting their best and highest interests; and, under this impression, I cannot but feel assured that much moral and religious benefit is obtained by them. The New Testament, in a regular daily course of reading to them when assembled in chapel, is gone through every quarter, which gives them a continuous knowledge of its important contents. One of the prisoners now for trial has made to me repeated acknowledgments of the benefit he has derived whilst in prison, and has assured me that his mind has been enlightened and his conscience awakened by the religious services to which he has had daily access.

I consider the "Silent System" as contributing very materially to the efficacy of a chaplain's labours, making his voice as it were the voice of an angel, and leading the prisoners to regard his performance of the duties of religion with peculiar gratification.

Some, on their discharge, have declared it to be a good school; and some, who had been in the bridewell before the introduction of the "Silent System," have spoken of it as a far better plan and more agreeable to themselves even than the unrestrained permission to hold conversation, which was too often of a profane and dissolute character; so that the "Silent System" (and, as far as it can be adopted, the "Separate System)" is, without doubt, productive of good, not only as a *deterring* but as a *moral* and *religious* agent, by inducing those prisoners who are able to read to value the books supplied to them. There is a far greater demand for the loan of books, and far greater care taken of them, and far more time spent in reading than used to be before its introduction.

There is also, generally, great desire in the prisoners to learn to read or to improve themselves in reading; to which, as there is no other instructor, I render all the facility in my power, by taking every morning, in turn, those who require assistance, and who, from the duration of their imprisonment and other circumstances, I judge likely to derive benefit from it.

The number of prisoners committed from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837 was 319, (being 108 fewer than during the preceding year), of whom 121 were charged with felonies, and 198 with misdemeanors: of the felon class 65 could read, and of the misdemeanor class 109. The greatest number at one time was 70.

NORWICH.—CITY GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Norwich. City Gaol and House of Correction.

Inspected this prison on the 27th of November and subsequent days. The sleeping cells were clean, the bedding neatly arranged, and the entire of the prison presented an improved appearance compared with that of my last visit. The coal-boxes in the day rooms are improperly made the receptacles for the prisoners' clothing and articles they may desire to conceal. In one of the rooms I found a set of draughts for playing at some idle game. The chimneys smoke to that degree as to make it almost impossible to preserve the requisite cleanliness. The debtors' wards were not over clean; the walls of them were defaced by scribbling, and the apertures for ventilation generally filled up. One debtor was exercising his trade as a cabinet-maker with a variety of very dangerous tools lying about. Tobacco smoking seems to occupy the greater portion of their time. The turnkey states, "I have heard several of them say they would rather go without their meal than a pipe." Since the last inspection the cupboards in the day rooms have been taken down, and a convenient place provided where the prisoners receive visitors. I regret to report that the same anomaly is still permitted to exist in the dietary between prisoners convicted at the quarter sessions and assizes, and those summarily by the magistrates. The female prisoners are now provided with a proper gaol dress. The keeper's emoluments, formerly arisng from fees paid to him upon the committal of each prisoner, have now been very properly commuted for a regular salary of 230*l.* a-year. The keeper is permitted to charge the debtors a rent of 3*s.* a-week for any prisoner

choosing to have a separate room to himself (one of the ordinary sleeping cells). If two prisoners avail themselves of the privilege in one room, 4*s.* is the rent weekly. The turnkey in charge of the debtors collects their rents weekly, and the average emolument therefrom is said by the keeper to be 40*l.* yearly. The turnkey states, "I have had as many as 25 debtors in the prison, with only one of these eight rented rooms occupied from their inability to pay, so that the poor side has been crowded to excess while the other has been comparatively empty. Any two debtors, or a single one, may have a room to themselves. The untried prisoners are allowed to introduce cooked meat on three, and beer two days in the week, in addition to the dietary. The debtors from the courts of conscience may purchase one pint, and those from the superior courts a quart of ale daily. One of the turnkeys states, "Very good dinners come in at times, so much so, that prisoners cannot eat their gaol allowance. We have detected articles concealed in the meat. Only last week we found half an ounce of tobacco concealed in a pig's foot." The keeper now makes daily entries of all occurrences in his journal thus:—"31st January, 1837. This day ———, and ———, were privately flogged pursuant to their sentences at the August sessions, 1836, viz. six months to hard labour, last 14 days solitary, and once privately flogged. ——— received 12 lashes, and ——— 12 in the presence of two magistrates." "April 18th, ———, charged with felony, was put into the female misdemeanants' class, being pregnant and subject to fits, and not fit to be alone."

A register is kept in which the keeper enters all particulars relating to the condition, connexions and habits of the prisoners, which is laid before the recorder previous to his passing sentence.

The following are extracts:—

"———, age 19. One of the worst characters in Norwich. His connexions are of the worst description. Has been convicted of felony, and sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment, and once privately flogged. He received 14 lashes. This makes his 14th time in custody.

"———, age 18. Can read and write imperfectly. His seventh time in custody, six times charged with felony. One of the worst characters in Norwich. His connexions of the very worst description.

"———, age 17. Cannot read or write. His tenth time in custody here, five times charged with felony, and five as disorderly. Has also been in the castle, and his connexions are very bad.

"———, age 15. Can read imperfectly. Belongs to Fakenham. His mother gives him one of the worst of characters. She told me she was afraid he would one day murder her. He beat her, robbed her, and threatened to murder her. His connexions are not known to me.

"———, age 12. Cannot read or write. Belongs to Norwich. His fifth time in custody. Was admitted evidence against two other boys at the April sessions, 1834. His connexions are of the worst description, and his mother, who has been in custody herself, is a very bad character, and cares nothing about her family.

———, age 12. Can read and write imperfectly. His fifth time in custody; a very notorious, artful boy. Connexions not much known.

"———, age 10. Cannot read or write. Belonging to ———. A very notorious character, although so very young; this makes his eighth time in custody. He has been convicted of felony in the county. He belongs to a very numerous gang of young thieves in Norwich who infest the streets in the evening."

There has been one death in the prison during the year 1837, a vagrant, described as an habitual drunkard, who died in the reception cell. The surgeon now attends corporal punishments, sees all the prisoners weekly, and before they are classed, and enters his visits in a journal. On the day of inspection I found one prisoner, a boy, 12 years of age, undergoing a sentence of three months' solitary confinement; the chaplain had omitted to visit him. ———, committed for disorderly conduct, and apparently insane; was in the infirmary under the charge of a wardsman, who states, "The prisoner is always awake at 12 o'clock at night, and sometimes so noisy that we put him outside the ward on the stairs without his clothes, which quiets him: sometimes we keep him there an hour; he sings all manner of blackguard things. He is out of his mind. I have known him for 27 years. He is a freeman of the city, and quite mad about the blue and white party." Another prisoner, committed to take his trial for murder at the assizes, was also in the hospital, being in a state of mind quite unsafe for him to be left alone.

The general discipline of this prison is still lax. Attempts at escape are most numerous. In the keeper's journal I find the following entries:—"March 12, 1837. This afternoon, between five and six o'clock, ———, and ———, made their escape from the gaol: they were taken the same evening, about half-past seven, by one of the turnkeys, in St. Mark's."

"May 21st, 1837. This morning, or late last night, ———, and ———, made their escape from gaol." "22d, this morning, ———, and ———, were brought back to the gaol, having been apprehended at Dereham the previous evening; they were both ironed and locked up." A turnkey states in evidence, "Things continue to come over the walls; I caught a large parcel coming over; I immediately ran out and seized the person who threw it, who I found to be a prisoner only discharged two or three days before. He was taken before the magistrates and discharged, they having no power to punish him." From the lowness of the division walls between the airing yards the prisoners frequently get over them, and can even reach the females." "Keeper's journal, June 6th, 1836. ———, was this afternoon seen on the top of his airing yard wall making his way to Mary ———, a

female prisoner, who was in a yard adjoining; he was immediately put into his cell and locked up." Talking and shouting from the sleeping cells, and throwing bread from one yard to another, also takes place. As long as unrestrained association is sanctioned as the principle of discipline, it is in vain to expect any other results than those above described. I recommend that silence should be enforced throughout the prison; that the prisoners, especially the convicted, should take their meals in their separate cells, or together in the presence of an officer, and that decency and order should be maintained at these as well as at all other times. Something is gained if a man of irregular habits is taught only to eat by rule, and to behave with propriety while doing so. The treadwheels require partitions, that the labour may be performed without the solace of continual communication, as is now the case; the iron railing, and division between the wheels, is injurious to inspection. The mill should never be left without an inspecting officer. There is no system of instruction carried on, and the men for trial, and not sentenced to hard labour, pass their time in idleness. The chaplain teaches the boys once or twice a week. I recommend the appointment of a schoolmaster. The establishment of a small library I have found likewise beneficial in a prison; and where there are so many debtors I am quite sure that the circulation among them of a few books of rather a less serious cast than those ordinarily issued to the criminal prisoners, such as history, or narrative, would be a great benefit, and perhaps woo them from that listless indolence so generally prevailing. The windows of the sleeping cells for females require blinds, and a door which communicates from the debtors' wards to those of the criminals adjoining to the solitary cells should be walled up. I recommend that when whipping is ordered to be inflicted upon very young boys, a birch rod should be used in lieu of the scourge, which, being too powerful an instrument, from motives of humanity and prudence, causes its application to be only nominal, and serves rather to harden than deter. I am of opinion that the practice of admitting dinners and beer during the week to the untried should be modified; if prisoners can afford to support themselves three days a week, they should not be permitted to draw the gaol allowance on those days. I saw, on going round the prison, a quantity of bread in one of the coal boxes. I disapprove altogether of the keeper's letting out rooms to the debtors for his private emolument, and recommend the immediate discontinuance of the practice. I annex a state of the prison at the period of inspection.

Norwich Gaol, 28th November, 1837.

RETURN of PRISONERS this day in Custody.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under sentence of transportation	1	. .	1
„ „ of imprisonment from sessions	20	4	24
„ „ of imprisonment from assizes	. .	. .	. .
Misdemeanors convicted at sessions	4	. .	4
Summary convictions	8	. .	8
Committed under the Vagrant Act	1	. .	1
„ for want of sureties	3	. .	3
„ for trial at sessions	4	. .	4
„ for trial at assizes	1	. .	1
„ by courts martial	. .	. .	. .
„ evidence at sessions	. .	2	2
„ for further examination	2	1	3
Children	. .	. .	. .
Deserters awaiting a route	1	. .	1
Master debtors	15	. .	15
Common-side ditto	7	. .	7
	67	7	74

CLASSIFICATION.

Class.		Number.	Total.
	MALES.		
1	Men, first offences, convicted at sessions	5	. .
2	Boys, first offences, ditto ditto	7	. .
3	Men, second offences, ditto ditto	8	. .
4	Misdemeanors convicted at ditto	4	. .
5	Vagrants	1	. .
6	Summary convictions	8	. .
7	For trial at sessions	4	. .
8	Bailable offences	3	. .
9	Transported	1	. .
	Carried forward		41

Classification, *continued.*

Class.		Number.	Total.
	Brought forward . .	. .	41
	Males.		
10	For trial at assizes	1	. .
11	Master debtors	15	. .
12	Common side ditto	7	. .
	Deserters awaiting a route	1	. .
	For further examination	2	. .
			26
	Females.		
13	Offences convicted at sessions	4	. .
14	Evidence at sessions	2	. .
	For further examination	1	. .
			7
			74

NORWICH.—City Lock-ups.

City Lock-ups.

The former inconvenient and unsuitable places used as lock-ups have been discontinued, and others, under the town-hall and in connexion with the police station house, substituted, which, if they do not provide all the accommodation that might be wished, are at least a great improvement. I annex a Return of the number of persons who have passed through during the year 1837.

A Return of the Number of Persons who have passed through the Lock-ups at the Station House of the Norwich Police Force from the 1st January 1836 to 31st December 1837 inclusive.

Females under 18 Years of age.	Females above 18 Years of age.	Males under 18 Years of age.	Males above 18 Years of Age.	Total.
66	220	271	1,352	1,909

LYNN.—Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Lynn. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Inspected this prison on the 22d of November, 1837. On going through the interior I found provisions, tobacco, and implements for gambling lying about the day-rooms; candles and matches in one of the cells. The prisoners were sleeping three in a cell, while four cells in the same range were unoccupied. In one cell, at 10 o'clock in the morning, a prisoner was lying naked in bed, and it is almost impossible to conceive the filthy condition he was in. The keeper stated that he was an incorrigible character, sentenced to a month's confinement for vagrancy, and he was directed to give him nothing but bread and water and keep him alone. He had, accordingly, done so during the whole time. The appearance of this prisoner was more like that of a savage than a civilized being. The prisoners were distributed through the prison on the day of inspection as follows:—

No. 1 Yard . .	4 . .	Summary convictions.
„ . .	1 . .	Vagrant.
„ . .	1 . .	Two years' confinement for an unnatural offence.
„ . .	1 . .	For further examination.
No. 2 Yard . .	1 . .	Two years' confinement for an unnatural offence.
„ . .	1 . .	Boy; felony. Three months.
„ . .	1 . .	Man, felony. Two months.
„ . .	1 . .	Boy; summarily convicted. Two months.

One boy in a room in the keeper's house, under examination; one in the debtors' yard; and a third in the house of correction; one male debtor; a female in one of the cells on the male side—a certificate of her lunacy had been obtained, and she was on the point of removal. In the female ward were three prisoners: one for trial; one for assault—one month; and one for felony—three months. It is hardly possible to speak in terms sufficiently strong of the impropriety of the classification above described, where prisoners convicted of unnatural offences are allowed unrestricted communication during the day with male prisoners of all ages.

This prison, I regret to say, has undergone no change since my last visit in 1835, the only exception being that the eating of raw pork has been put a stop to, and diarrhœa, formerly prevalent among the prisoners, has ceased. The sum of 7*d.* a-day is still allowed the keeper for the maintenance of the prisoners who are permitted to have tobacco, meat, and other articles to the amount of seven half-quartern loaves and half a lb. of cheese weekly, this being the nominal dietary. He describes his profits at 1*d.* a head per day. The only employment of the prisoners

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT. Reports on Separate Prisons. Lynn. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

is in cleaning the gaol, and those engaged even in this necessary occupation get extra allowance of bread and milk from the keeper. The average number of prisoners in this prison is from 18 to 20, and here they are permitted to remain in idleness and mutual corruption without the least attempt to check it by a rigid superintendence and the introduction of some kind of labour. The employment of prisoners is here, from the circumstance of Lynn being a sea-port, not so difficult as in agricultural districts. Junk for oakum is generally obtainable. The faulty construction of prisons is too often put forward as an excuse for every neglect, instead of being an additional spur to vigilance and zeal. A very little activity and attention on the part of the magistrates would bring even this inconveniently-constructed building in a very improved condition. It is quite impossible the keeper, a very respectable individual, can by himself efficiently superintend this establishment; another officer is indispensable. The regular visits of a salaried chaplain are also much required; indeed, every item that has relation to a good system of prison discipline.

Looking to the increasing extent and population of Lynn, it is impossible but to come to the conclusion that the town-council should consider the propriety of erecting a new prison: they have eligible sites which might be applied to this purpose. Policy and humanity require that a remedy should be applied to one of the most discreditable prisons in England—the borough gaol of Lynn.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

CAMBRIDGE.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Cambridgeshire. Cambridge. County Gaol and House of Correction.

Inspected this prison on the 22d of January, 1838. On going through, found the day-rooms not particularly clean, and bundles of clothing lying carelessly about. In one instance the prisoners were sleeping six in one room, and three in a cell, while four on the ground floor were unoccupied. In one of the sleeping cells were two sick prisoners lying together on a palliasse on the brick floor. In a similar cell was another prisoner, who stated that he had been there for two nights, had reported himself ill to the officers on Sunday morning, yet had not been visited by the surgeon at one o'clock on Monday, the time of the inspector's visit. The weather was most severe, and I cannot forbear noticing the impropriety of sick men being suffered to sleep together in the same bed and in such a situation, exposed to the drafts of wind and intense cold then prevailing. The surgeon was immediately sent for by the keeper, and the prisoners removed to the vacant cells. An infirmary is much wanting in this prison, I am satisfied that a gaol dress for the prisoners would greatly conduce to their cleanliness and health. They are now obliged to lie in bed until their apparel has been purified, a process which here seems to be of very doubtful utility, for in one of the cells I found a prisoner stripped, and was informed by the officers he had been placed there to rid himself of the vermin about his clothes and person. The prisoners are permitted to take any quantity of clothing with them into the interior of the prison, which gives it an appearance of untidiness, and affords them the opportunity of bartering handkerchiefs and other articles for provisions. Even limiting the supply to only what is strictly necessary, and placing the superfluity in store, would be far preferable to the present practice.

The surgeon does not see the prisoners before they are classed. On Saturday the 20th of January, three prisoners sleeping together in a cell were found infected with the itch; the dates of their commitments were the 23d of September, the 26th of September, and the 5th of December. In consequence of the alarming state of debility to which the prisoners at hard labour were reduced, and the scurvy appearing among them, the former diet, consisting of two and a half lbs. of bread and a quart of oatmeal gruel, was done away with, and the following scale substituted, but too recently to permit a decided opinion to be formed of its complete efficiency.

Dietary for Men at Hard Labour.

	Sunday, Monday, Thursday.	Tuesday and Friday.	Wednesday and Saturday.
Breakfast.	Bread, of fine quality, 1 pound and a half. * Porridge, 1 quart.	Bread, 1 pound.	Bread, 1 pound. Onions, 4 ounces. Salt, half an ounce.
Dinner.	Bread, 1 pound. Onions, 4 ounces. Salt, half an ounce.	Bread, 1 pound. † Soup, 1 pint.	Bread, half a pound. Potatoes, 1½ pound. Salt, half an ounce. Pepper.
Supper.	Bread, 1 pound. Onions, 4 ounces. Salt, half an ounce.	Bread, 1 pound.	Bread, 1 pound. Onions, 4 ounces. Salt, half an ounce.

* One quart of porridge contains 3 ounces of flour, pepper, and salt.

† One hundred pints of this soup contains 6 ox's heads, 39½ pounds; oatmeal, 4 pounds; peas, 4 pounds; salt, 1 pound; pepper, 1 ounce. The meat is first boiled in Pappin's digester.

I have remarked that this terrible disease generally shows itself in prisons where the diet is chiefly of a farinaceous kind, or without variety, and the information contained on this subject in the subjoined extracts from the valuable reports made by the surgeon is very valuable.

Cambridge County Gaol, July 4th, 1834.

Upon comparing the sick list of the last quarter with that preceding it, the numbers have not decreased so much as might be expected at this season of the year even after deducting those who were added to it by the change in the dietary, alluded to in my last report; this circumstance, however, is not to be explained by any particular disease having prevailed among the prisoners.

As to the changes lately made in the dietary of this prison it would be wrong to omit some statement of the result, it may supply a rule for the future regulations in this gaol, it may also furnish a guide for other gaols. The late dietary for those working at the treadmill was two pounds of fine wheaten bread, one pound of an inferior quality, and a pint of table beer daily. At the suggestion of the visiting magistrates the bread was reduced to two pounds of an inferior quality, and a quart of gruel was substituted for the table beer. This alteration was begun about the middle of March, and persevered in until the 13th of the following May. The effect of this change was closely watched; as might be expected, the discontent among the prisoners very soon became general; in a few days many struck work altogether, but finding it unavailing returned to it in a day or two, and others threw themselves on the sick list with a view to strengthen the general clamour. About the 13th of May, however, the appearance and symptoms of those who reported themselves sick were too obvious to be mistaken; it was evident the scale of diet was too low for persons of unequal wants; were it possible to classify prisoners according to their physical necessities, the gross amount of their sustenance might be reduced; but this is evidently impracticable, and it therefore becomes necessary, for the sake of some, to establish a scale of diet exceeding in a slight degree the requirements of others. I was therefore induced to make the following regulation, which is never deviated from except in cases of sickness under a new order:—

Breakfast	at 9	o'clock,	1 pound of inferior bread.
Dinner	at 12	„	1 pound of ditto.
Supper	at 6	„	½ a pound of inferior bread, and 1 quart of gruel.

As far as I can judge at present I have every reason to think this dietary will be found compatible with health, so long as the system of discipline now in use is continued.

Cambridge County Gaol, October 17th, 1834.

In my last report I ventured to predict favourably of the new dietary: I have the satisfaction of being able to say, that the trial it has undergone during the quarter just ended has rather confirmed me in my opinion, than otherwise.

Cambridge County Gaol, January 8th, 1836.

Soon after the date of my last quarterly report many of the prisoners began to fall ill; the greater number of these were attacked by severe catarrhal affections, generally ending in a long continued cough. Many cases are upon the daily journal at this time, and in some of them their strength has been so much reduced by the disease acting upon persons sustained upon almost the lowest quantity of food which, when free from illness, is sufficient, that it will probably become necessary to depart from the established dietary to a considerable extent, particularly during the winter months, whilst the prisoners are exposed to sudden and frequent changes of weather.

Cambridge County Gaol, April 8th, 1836.

It will be found on reference to my last quarterly report that in the early part of November many of the prisoners were falling ill, and that some of the cases were remarkable for the debility into which they sunk. From that period to about the end of February the proportion of sick continued to increase to an alarming extent; their disases consisting principally of the various modifications of that state of body, which is found to arise from a deficiency of nutriment, exposure to cold, mental dejection, and other depressing causes acting simultaneously, a state of body resembling in many of its features the disease usually called sea scurvy. Some were affected by a dangerous diarrhœa; others suddenly lost their strength, having their legs covered with petechial spots; some fell into a state of low fever from which they were long in recovering; and in several hemorrhage took place from the nose, gums, and lungs.

This state of things continued with no abatement till about the middle of March, when a slight improvement was visible in the health of those possessed of a more vigorous constitution than the rest. From that time to the present the amendment has proceeded gradually, and it is probable will be rather confirmed than otherwise as the spring advances.

Without entering upon the tedious enumeration of all the facts and reasonings upon which my opinion is formed of the absolute necessity of a change being made in the dietary of the prison, as one of the means of obviating these severe attacks upon the health of the prisoners, I will merely request the attention of the magistrates to the following extracts from my reports.

II. NORTHERN AND EASTERN DIVISION. Reports on Separate Prisons. Cambridge. County Gaol and House of Correction.

Quarterly report, dated 11th April, 1834. With regard to the effect which the altered diet may have upon the condition of those who are sentenced to a long term of imprisonment, I am unable at present to offer any opinion.

Quarterly report, dated July 4th, 1834. See passage beginning, "At the suggestion of the visiting magistrates," &c.

Quarterly report, dated January 8th, 1836. See page 1.

In one of these extracts, dated April 11th, 1834, it will be seen that from the first introduction of this dietary my opinion was undecided in regard to its effects upon a certain class of prisoners. In the extract, dated July, 1834, it will appear, that being convinced, by close observation, of the insufficiency of the dietary began in the March previous, a small addition of bread was directed to be made to it. In the extract, dated January 8th, 1836, it will be seen that though a long interval had taken place without any apparent necessity for altering the dietary, yet in that same extract it will also appear, that when the prisoners, particularly those who had been longest in the gaol, were exposed to the inclemency of an unusually severe winter, they became incapable of performing their customary labour; and that notwithstanding every means in respect of nutritious diet and warmth were immediately resorted to, they were not in many cases preserved from the severe illness described in the foregoing part of this report. That they were not seriously affected by the winter of 1834, the first winter of the reduced dietary, does not weaken the proof of the agency of cold, and wet weather, in the production of disease, when combined with a low diet, will be shown by the fact of its being a remarkably mild and dry winter.

I ought not to omit the important fact, that, with the exception of one instance, all who have suffered so greatly in their health were those sentenced to hard labour, and in general were those who had been longest resident in gaol. With regard to the kind of alteration which it would be advisable to make in the dietary, I should be glad to avail myself of the assistance of the visiting magistrates, with whom I have already had communications upon this subject, during the worst period of the illness of the prisoners.

Cambridge County Gaol, June 30th, 1836.

A slight general improvement may be said to have taken place in the health of the prisoners since the date of my last report: an improvement, however, which the experience of last quarter shows to be dependent upon certain properties of labour and nutriment; in proof of this, several of the prisoners having gradually recovered their strength, requested permission to return to the wheel, others apparently as much improved in health were ordered to do so; but in almost every instance it has been productive of a return of the same kind of illness as that described in my last report, and in one or two cases the relapse has been worse than the original attack. At a conference with the visiting magistrates this fact was laid before them, and their sanction obtained, for prolonging the exemption from hard labour in all cases of convalescence from severe attacks of this nature. It being thought advisable to alter the present dietary of the prison, it was recommended that bread made of fine wheaten flour be substituted for that already in use.

Cambridge County Gaol, October 21st, 1836.

From the beginning of the quarter just ended, to about the end of August, but little general amendment in the health of the prisoners was observable; notwithstanding the experience of some months had rendered familiar the symptoms and appearances of their peculiar illness, the utmost vigilance was insufficient to prevent several of them from falling into the extreme debility which so remarkably characterizes their disease. About the end of August, the cases were so numerous that it became necessary to suspend for a few days the working of the treadmill, allowing at the same time an addition to their usual dietary. About ten days afterwards the prisoners had so far recovered their strength as to be capable of performing three or four hours' work every day, with manifest advantage to their health.

Cambridge County Gaol, January 6th, 1837.

There has been considerable less illness in the gaol during the last quarter than in that preceding it. The same tendency, however, is still observed among the prisoners to fall into a state of great weakness, if any part of the dietary should happen to disagree with them; rendering it necessary to watch their health more strictly than formerly. The attack which most commonly leads to this debility is upon the bowels, supposed to arise from the use of potatoes. The introduction of potatoes into the dietary has, notwithstanding, been of so essential a benefit as greatly to outweigh the disadvantages I have alluded to.

Cambridge County Gaol, October 20th, 1837.

The same tendency to the scorbutic disease, mentioned in my last report, still exists among the prisoners. Owing, perhaps, to the influence of the season, the cases of this kind have rather increased within the last three weeks. None of these have attained to any great severity; it is some satisfaction to have acquired from experience that knowledge of its early symptoms which enables us with tolerable certainty to check the progress of so weakening a malady.

Cambridge County Gaol, January 5th, 1838.

It is now two years since the scorbutic disease first appeared in our gaol, and during that period as many changes have been made in the general dietary as were found consistent with

the endeavour to avoid a scale of diet superior in the slightest degree to that which the prisoners were accustomed to when at their homes. These changes, however, have not succeeded; and repeated experience having shown that prisoners sentenced to hard labour have not retained their health long upon the limited plan of diet hitherto adopted, and that upon being received into the sick-ward and supplied with a more nutritious diet, the scorbutic disease gradually left them, it was agreed at a meeting of the visiting magistrates, that I should draw up a new dietary exclusively for prisoners at hard labour. This being done, and submitted to their inspection at a subsequent meeting, held November the 11th, it was agreed that it should be adopted. This dietary is now in use, and as far as I can judge at present, I believe I shall be able to speak favourably of it in my next quarterly report. Those prisoners who were attacked by the scorbutic disease in the early part of the quarter are gradually recovering; three of them have been very severely affected.

Among the prisoners at present confined here is ————————, acquitted of a charge of maliciously stabbing, on the grounds of insanity, and ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure. He is described rather as an idiot than a dangerous lunatic, subject to epileptic fits, and requiring constant attention. One death has taken place during the last year among the debtors; the prisoner was 84 years of age, and was borne into the prison, and never rose from his bed. The surgeon states that he does not inspect all the prisoners twice a week in compliance with the Gaol Act, and that the prison is in general very healthy, putting out of consideration the illness arising from the low diet.

Under the head of Moral and Religious Instruction, I have great satisfaction in reporting considerable improvement. The chaplain's labours have been considerably extended, a schoolmaster has been appointed, and the officers bear testimony of the advantages resulting therefrom. The chaplain thus details his duties :—"Daily service at half past nine in the morning, with a lesson from the Old or New Testament, or a lecture. After prayers, I have the men in who are about to be discharged, and suitably admonish them. I take the prisoners in the order of the six yards or classes. I divide them into sections of three or four in number. I hear them read and repeat the collect for the week by heart, or parts of the catechism which they have been set to learn as a task. I manage thus, so as to have personal communication with every prisoner once a week. After having gone through the daily class, I have before me the prisoners who have been just committed, and examine them relative to their previous habits and course of life, and advise them accordingly. The information I derive from them I enter in a private journal. I then visit the sick: this occupies me daily from half past nine to eleven or twelve, and sometimes later. The prisoners make great progress, and appear to take considerable interest in being taught: many of them express their thanks on leaving the prison. The only exception to this, is perhaps class number six, comprised of prisoners not sentenced to hard labour, imprisoned for non-payment of fines, and convicted under the Game Laws, who are always more difficult to make an impression upon than any others. I have not administered the sacrament, not having found any prisoner in a satisfactory state of mind to enable me to do so." The chaplain keeps a public journal, in which he enters the performance of his duties, and of which the following is an extract:—"I saw the men from No. 7 and No 2; Gunn, convicted at the sessions, and sentenced to six months imprisonment refuses to be instructed. ———, who at the last assizes was sentenced to transportation for life, and previously to be imprisoned for 12 months, requests the chaplain to write to the Rev. Mr. ———, who knows his family, to give him a character, which may prevent his being sent out of the country. ——, a boy with whom much pains has been taken, has discarded his books, and by his bad conduct proved the fallacy of any hopes of amending him: he has been more than five months under sentence, and has been kept entirely by himself. His time expires in ten days." The chaplain's private journal is a very interesting and valuable summary of the connexions, situations, habits, and career of the prisoners. The following are extracts.

———, aged 24; neither read nor write. Convicted of a trespass in search of game, and sentenced to three months hard labour; has been in now 11 times for the same offence, was only 15 when first committed; dates the first of his taking to poaching to working on the road at 4*d*. a-day, was obliged to do something else to make up a living. Thinks there are seven young men now in his parish who do no work, nor are allowed by the parish, and who live chiefly by poaching. Sold the game he took, not to dealers, but to private persons who wanted it for their own consumption, at the rate of 2*s*. 6*d*. a hare, and the same sum for a brace of partridges. Seldom got partridges, never pheasants, never went out with a gun. Finds no difference now, and before the passing of last Game Law, in disposing of game. When first he was led away he used to go in company, but since he "has followed *the trade*" has gone by himself. Has in good times made a pound a-week by his game. Did not sell it to dealers. Never sent any to London. (I suspect from his manner he did sell it to dealers.) Generally gets work except in the dead of winter, but always out of his own parish. Sleeps in barns when he can get no work. His poaching season commences about a month after Michaelmas, because then his work gets slack. Has passed his winters in gaol for the last six years. Does not think it a great crime to poach. Would not commit a robbery, never did in his life. Frequented the public house as little as most young men. Has had a venereal complaint for six years, which has become deeply rooted in his constitution. Hopes to get work when he goes out, will do any thing that is set him.

Dreadfully ignorant of religion. Does not know who Jesus Christ was. Discharged April 4.

———, female, age 29; read and write well; married. Convicted of stealing a muff and other articles, value 8*l*. Has been in Whitecross-street prison. Her father was a clergyman,

living at ——— in ———, where he was vicar. She was born there; there were four children; has two brothers and a sister living now. Her brothers are both clergymen, one is incumbent at ———, the other a chaplain. Her sister is unmarried, living on her property. Her father has been dead 13 or 14 years, he died at ———. Her mother has been dead 17 or 18 years. Prisoner has been married between four and five years. Her husband was a conveyancer; she lived with him about two years. Married for the sake of a home, as her brother kept her out of her money. Her husband turned out a dissipated character; went with other females; she could not live with him, and wished to be separated from him. He got a good deal into debt, and his father sent him abroad. He was not transported. He is said to be in America, but she does not know where he is, as she has had no communication with him since. Was living in London when she married. Was in a situation as governess at a ——— who taught drawing to ———, and lived in ———. She being a good deal out prisoner looked after her family. Since her husband left her she has been living in ———, and ———, and other places, upon one good friend or another. Her brother has treated her with great injustice in keeping her out of her property. In consequence of her having joined herself to the dissenters, her father did not make any provision for her in his will, but left all to the discretion of her elder brother, who has proved a great tyrant. Has not had any thing from her brother for six years. Has a rich uncle living in ———, who has retired from the medical profession. Mr. ——— of Cambridge has written to her brother. During her father's life she went into ——— as a governess, when she was taken with a nervous fever and sent home, when she was confined to her room by her brother's agency on the plea that she was mad. When she joined herself to the dissenters her home was so uncomfortable that the dissenters got her a situation in ———. She had only a plain education, *i. e.* was not taught music, &c., as her father was not a rich man. When she came down to ———, she took her maiden name, she thought she could accomplish her purposes more easily as she had a brother formerly of ——— college. Her real name is ———. She did not assume this name when she was committed, because she thought if she got into trouble her brother ought to share in some of the degradation, as it was through his neglect she was reduced to the necessity of committing the crime.

I have written to ———, and received in reply that she has long been a trouble to her connexions. Removed to the ship ——— lying at Woolwich.

———, age 45; master shoemaker; married; 5 children, 15 eldest, 4 youngest; read and write. Committed on a charge of receiving malt, knowing the same to have been stolen. Never was in gaol before. Bought the malt of ——— nearly two years ago. His children go to school. Often goes to church on Sundays, not always. Keeps a new beer shop. There was no public house in the village for near 20 years, now there are three beer-shops. Does not think they have done much harm or good. Convicted at July sessions, 14 years' transportation.

Female, age 17, single; read and write imperfectly. Committed on a charge of stealing oats. Never was in gaol before, was gleaning, and took a handful of oats lying in a swarth on a "bawk." The farmers had lost a good deal of corn about the field by gleaners taking corn, and therefore they punished the first they could detect, which happened to be the prisoner and two other girls committed with her. She had not done it before. Lives at home with her father and mother. Works in the field in the summer. Has been out at service five months, and wanted to get another place. Goes to church constantly, can say her catechism.

Is a very decent-looking girl. Sentenced at sessions to six weeks' imprisonment.

The schoolmaster recently appointed was formerly a turnkey in the prison, with which he has been connected for a period of 11 years. His salary is 52*l*. He is under the superintendence of the chaplain. He states, "That he teaches them both separately and in classes, and the prisoners assist each other. The books made use of are all of a religious tendency. They occasionally express a desire to learn to write. The instruction is most beneficial, it keeps their minds employed from worse. Some prisoners who come only for a month are often so ignorant as not to know a prayer. These I teach to repeat the creed and the Lord's prayer. A great many who come in can read, but cannot understand what they read, and several who could read the Testament were unable to say the Lord's prayer. I detected on one occasion the prisoners making sport of the Bible, they were making a joke and laughing at Solomon's Song; since then we have only permitted them to have a single Bible in each day-room, but they have all Testaments." The schoolmaster keeps a journal arranged under the following heads: Name—age—when committed—extent of learning when committed—progress made during confinement—when discharged.

I proceeded, accompanied by the schoolmaster, to examine personally the progress made by the prisoners.

———, age 19, convicted March, 1837. Could not read, went to church at Sunday-school for a few weeks. He now reads perfectly well, but comprehends but imperfectly.

———, age 16, convicted November, 1836. Went to day and Sunday-school. Reads imperfectly, but perfectly understands what he reads.

———, age , convicted March, 1837. Could not read. Never at school. His parents not scholars. He now reads tolerably well, and understands what he reads.

———, age 15. Three or four times convicted. Attended school. Can read and write. He is an extremely acute and sharp boy, understanding perfectly what he acquires.

I annex the following interesting abstract of the state of education among the prisoners upon their committal, and the progress made by them in prison.

From October 1836, *to October* 1837.

No. of Prisoners that could not say the Lord's Prayer when committed.	No. of Prisoners that could repeat the Lord's Prayer only.	No. of Prisoners that could repeat the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.	No. of Prisoners that could repeat the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Ten Commandments.	No. of Prisoners that could repeat the Lord's Prayer, Creed, Ten Commandments, and Catechism.	TOTAL.
131	17	67	19	2	236
The above number have learned the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Ten Commandments, and some the Catechism perfect, with Collects, Explanations, and a portion of Scripture weekly; those last that I mention could read when committed.	The above num	bers have made	further progress	in learning.	

From October 1836, *to October* 1837.

No. of Prisoners that could not read when committed, learned to read in Spelling Book.	No. of Prisoners that could not read, learned to read in Testament.	No. of Prisoners that could read Spelling Book when committed, learned to read in Testament.	No. of Prisoners that could read in Testament when committed, made further progress.	No. of Prisoners refused Instruction.	No. of Prisoners too old for Instruction.	TOTAL.
56 *6	19 *8	21 *5	117	9	5	
62	27	26	117	9	5	246
	That refuses Instruction and too old					14
	Total number of Prisoners received Instruction from October 1836 to October 1187					232

* The number of Prisoners that were in custody, but committed a short time previous to October Sessions, 1836, but have since been discharged.

Expenditure.

ANNUAL ACCOUNT, Michaelmas, 1837.

Officers.	Salaries.	Bread.	Oatmeal.	Salt.	Maintenance of Sick.	Fuel.	Conveyance of Transports.	Conveyance of Prisoners and Debtors to Court.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Governor . .	220 0 0	261 0 0	17 8 0	1 10 0	7 13 11	70 10 0	117 4 10	4 5 6
Matron . . .	30 0 0							
Chaplain . .	150 0 0							
Surgeon . . .	20 0 0							
Miller. . . .	57 4 0							
Baker. . . .	36 0 0							
Turnkeys . .	117 0 0							
Schoolmaster .	52 0 0							
Night watch . (pro tem.)	19 10 0							
	701 14 0	261 0 0	17 8 0	1 10 0	7 13 11	70 10 0	117 4 10	4 5 6

Annual Account, Michaelmas, 1837—*continued.*

Miscellaneous.	£.	s.	d.	Total Expenditure.	Earnings and Receipts.	£.	s.	d.	Stock in hand.
Taxes	9	12	0		Earnings	28	17	10	Wheat, 15 loads.
Insurance	15	15	0		Amount of fines paid by prisoners, applicable to county rate	9	0	0	Flour, none.
Tithes	2	10	0		From Government for conveyance of transports to the hulks	91	4	10	Oats, none.
Bedding	5	2	0			129	2	8	Oatmeal, six stone.
Clothing	32	2	4						
Shoemaker	26	0	9						
Treadmill repairs	3	15	1¾						
Repairs of gaol	58	1	5½						
Sweeping chimnies	2	0	0						
Soap	14	16	0						
Oil and candles	9	0	6						
Brushes, &c.	19	14	10						
Utensils	18	9	4½						
Medicines	40	0	0						
Hair cutting	13	3	6						
Books	17	8	11						
Stationery	17	7	1½						
Postage	1	1	9						
Burials	2	19	6						
Other expences	28	11	7						
Potatoes	20	15	11						
Cheese	8	8	5½						
	366	16	1½	1548 2 4½					

Flour consumed 120 sacks, the produce of 720 bushels of wheat, which, at 6*d.* per bushel grinding, gives a profit of £18, which form a part of the whole of the mill earnings of £28 17 10.

The bread delivered per sack of flour is 356 lb. loaves, and the number of lb. loaves is 42,720 during the year.

	£.	s.	d.
Expenditure	1548	2	4½
Receipts	129	2	8
Balance of Cost	£1418	19	8½

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Cambridge. County Gaol and House of Correction.

I am of opinion that the mode of supplying provisions and necessaries for the prisoners might be much better regulated, and with a saving of expense, if the system of contracting were introduced. The keeper obtains all supplies at the retail price from tradespeople named by him. Articles of clothing, when received into the prison, are taken at once into use, and neither entered into a book, nor is any account kept or taken of the increase or diminution of the county stock. The price charged for making a pair of shoes is 8*s.*, and 3*s.* 6*d.* is charged for mending; no account whatever is kept of the number of pairs actually in the prison. I strongly recommend that one of the officers should be specially charged with the useful office of taking charge and keeping an account of stores.

I recommend, as the treasurer resides in Cambridge, that the requisite means should be afforded of paying the under officers their wages monthly, that the keeper may not be under the necessity of making advances for this purpose from his private resources. Likewise, with the same view, that the business carried on at the mill should be either a ready money one, or that the credit should not extend beyond three months.

Benefactions.—There is a donation of 2*l.* 2*s.* from King's, and of 2*s.* 6*d.* from Jesus College annually; the keeper disburses it in providing a dinner for the prisoners on Christmas-day. I think the appropriation of such small sums to well conducted prisoners on their discharge would come nearer the intention of the benevolent donors, than providing in extra food.

The principal alterations in the fabric and discipline, since the last inspection, have been the building of a wall excluding the idle public from ascending the keep of the old castle, and carrying on communication with the interior of the prison. The imperfect state of the drainage is much complained of, but appears difficult of remedy. A new keeper and matron have been appointed upon the same salaries; an additional officer resides in the prison, and the visits to the prisoners have been further restricted. The debtors either wholly support themselves from their own resources, or are limited to the county allowance. I recommend that the old squares cut in the forms in the day-rooms for the purposes of gambling be effaced. It would also be an improvement, if the prisoners, at breakfast and supper, were to sit down in some degree of order; that grace were said, and that the officers should be present. The partitioning of the tread-wheel into pens for each prisoner would be an improvement, and permit the labour being carried on in silence. The matron conducts the females to and from the chapel, but does not remain with them there, as I think she ought to do. The other officers all attend divine service.

From the principle of uncontrolled association in the day-rooms, which still prevails in this prison, little in the shape of deterring or improving can be expected. The introduction of a system of moral and religious instruction has, however, operated in some degree as a palliative; and, if aided by the enforcement of silence, its present limited sphere of beneficial operation would, I doubt not, be considerably extended.

Cambridge County Gaol, January 23, 1838.
Morning of Inspection.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PRISONERS in each CLASS, specifying the Class, with the Number of Sleeping Cells in each Class.

MALE DEPARTMENT.

No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.	No. 7.	No. 8.
Upper Floor: Misdemeanors, 3. Further Examination, 1. Sleeping Cells, 4. These Men are let out alternately for Exercise. Kitchen: Misdemeanor, 1.	Convicted Felons, 15. Sleeping Cells, 5.	Misdemeanors, 10. Felons, 2. These 2 are placed in their proper Class by day, and sleep separately. Cells, 7. Kitchen: Sick Felons, 2.	For Trial, 9. Cells, 7.	For Trial, 9. Cells, 8.	Misdemeanors not for labour, 11. Cells, 8.	Juvenile Felons, 2. Misdemeanor, 1. Further Examination, 1. Cells, 4. These are let out alternately.	Debtors, 15. Cells, 15.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

No. 9.	No. 10.
Female Debtors, None.	Misdemeanors, 4. Cells, 6.

	Males.	Females.
Number of Sick on Surgeon's Journal . . . 8.	Number for Trial at Assizes . .	18	0.
Total Number in Custody . . . 86.		

CAMBRIDGE.—BOROUGH GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

II.
NORTHERN AND EASTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Cambridge. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

The discipline of this prison is much improved since my last visit. The number of prisoners on the morning of inspection were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
Convicted Felons	5	4
——— Misdemeanants	5	2
Sureties.—Fines	3	0
For Trial	3	0
Debtor	1	0
Total	17	6

Three on the sick list, with trifling ailments. The expenditure, from Lady-day 1836 to Midsummer 1837, for maintenance and clothing, is thus detailed:—

	£.	s.	d.
Bread	183	8	7
Coals	41	17	0
Table Beer	29	5	0
Shoes	11	16	0
Grocery	22	4	4
Clothes	3	9	0
Miscellaneous expenses	45	10	0
Removal of Convicts	53	2	6
Books and Tracts for Library	5	0	0
Chimney Sweeper	2	0	0
Gas Lamp, one year and a half	9	9	0
Treasurer of the County, for maintenance of Borough Prisoners convicted at Assizes	53	8	5½
	£460	9	10½

The books and accounts are in a greatly amended state. The receipt and expenditure of the benefactions is properly kept. The annual items are, from

	£.	s.	d.
Trinity College	1	0	0
St. John's	0	10	0
Emanuel	0	2	6
Benet's	0	5	0
Jesus	0	2	6
Christ's	0	2	6
	£2	2	6

This sum is laid out at the discretion of the keeper in providing the prisoners with extra dinners. I think the disbursement would be much better confided to the chaplain to reward good conduct, or provide some additional means to deserving prisoners upon their discharge. The daily quantity of provisions required and consumed by the prisoners is kept in the form annexed.

Number of Prisoners in Custody daily, with an Account of Bread and Beer delivered out.

Weekly Account beginning Monday,	Males.	Females.	Number at Work.	Number not at Work.	Quantity of Bread.	Quantity of Beer.
Monday						
Tuesday						
Wednesday						
Thursday						
Friday						
Saturday						
Sunday						
Casualties during the week						
Total . .						

These are sent to the treasurer, and after being checked are paid quarterly. The chaplain's salary has been increased to 50*l.*, and the surgeon's lowered to 30*l.*

Among the books lately brought into use is one for the entry of fines, conveniently arranged under the following heads:—Date—names—amount of fines—punishment—by whom received—when discharged—remarks.

The accounts for work done at the mill are settled half-yearly, on the 24th of August, and the 24th of February, the items are entered, and a receipt given by the town treasurer.

The prisoners are now strictly confined to the prison, and no longer suffered to work without the walls. The prison on the day of inspection was clean. Among other beneficial arrangements has been the establishment of a library, containing the following works.

Catalogue of Books in the Cambridge Town Gaol Library.

Tracts.
Narrative Series.
Hand Bills.
Hawkers' Series.
Magazine, vol. 1, 1830.
„ vol. 2, 1831.
„ vol. 3, 1832.
„ vol. 4, 1833.
„ vol. 5, 1834.
„ vol. 6, 1835.
Weekly Visitor, vol. 1, 1833.
„ vol. 2, 1834.
„ vol. 3, 1835.

Anecdotes.

Holy Scriptures.
Providence.
Christian Conduct.
Christian Ministers.
The Young.
Social Life.
Admonitions.

Lives.

Life of John Bunyan.
„ William Grimshaw.
„ James Meikle.
„ Major Burn.
„ Christian F. Swartz.
„ Archbishop Leighton.
„ Richard Baxter.
„ Philip Henry.
„ John Janeway.
„ David Brainerd.
„ Samuel Kilpin.
„ Claudius Buchanan.
„ Colonel Gardiner.
„ John Howard.
Life of William Howard.
„ Bernard Gilpin.
„ Harlan Page.
„ John Newton.
„ Colonel Blackader.
„ Samuel Pearce.
„ Bishop Hall.
„ Joseph Milner.
„ Mrs. Ann Judson.

Illustrations, &c. of Scripture.

Rites and Worship of the Jews.
Manners and Customs of the Jews.
Journeys of the Children of Israel.
Companion to the Bible.
Scripture Illustrations.
„ Similitudes.

Narratives, Tales, Travels, &c.

History of Moravian Brethren.
„ British Reformers.
Family Book.
Journey to Lattakoo.
Travels in South Africa.
Advice to Cottagers.
Workhouse Boy.
Bible its own Witness.
Two Apprentices.
Plain Man's Guide to Heaven.
Waste Not, Want Not, &c.
Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress.
„ Heart's Ease.
„ Holy War.
„ Heavenly Footman.
Stories from Switzerland.
Abbot's Young Christian.
„ Fireside.

Sermons, Treatises, &c.

Usher's Sermons.
Wilberforce's Practical View.
Edwards on Redemption.
Alleine's Alarm.
Boston's Fourfold State.
Newton's Letters.
Jesus Shewing Mercy.
Divine Authority of New Testament.
Baxter's Call to the Unconverted.
Doddridge's Rise and Progress.
Flavel's Mystery of Providence.
Doolittle's Love to Christ.
Flavel's Saints Indeed.
Fuller's Gospel Worthy, &c.
Hall's Devotional Works.
Newton's Sermons.
Thornton's Early Piety.
Pike's Religion and Eternal Life.
Bolton's Four Last Things.
Brook's Precious Remedies.
Repentance Explained.
James's Anxious Inquirer.
Evidence of Prophecy.
Scott's Force of Truth.
Fletcher's Address.
Pike's Early Piety.
Venn's Mistakes, &c. Exposed.
Bedell's Is it Well?
Divine Origin of Christianity.
Bibles.
Testaments.
Prayer Books.

The officers state that the establishment of the library has had the best possible effect. They say that "the prisoners take a considerable interest in the perusal of the books, and that it employs their mind, and keeps them from idleness." The chaplain says, "I have found the prisoners take a great interest in the books, which I exchange for them during the week. It is not only beneficial to them, but affords additional subjects for me to address them upon. I have had some of them ask when they had books of narrative for others of a more religious character, and the reverse." The chaplain always sees the prisoners individually once a week. Since the last visit of the Inspector in the case of a prisoner sentenced to two years' imprisonment as accessary to a case of manslaughter and robbery, he says "he had the greatest hopes of having achieved a thorough reform: the prisoner appeared truly penitent, was made wardsman at the mill, and seemed more than ordinarily of a serious disposition. He applied for books of prayer to assist him in private meditation. The mayor was pleased with his deportment, and with the chaplain applied to the Crown for a remission of his sentence, which was granted. Ten days or a fortnight afterwards he was again committed for an assault which took place in a drunken brawl in a house of ill fame." The officers all attend Divine service.

The surgeon now sees all the prisoners twice a week, and keeps a regular journal arranged as follows:—Name—age—when admitted—disease—discharged. The magistrates visit the prisoners with regularity, and upon an average monthly.

A set of rules, defining the duties of the officers, is much required, and the imposition of silence upon the wheel, and through the prison generally, would be beneficial.

SPINNING-HOUSE.—CAMBRIDGE.

Cambridge. Spinning-House.

This house of correction for prostitutes apprehended by the proctors, and imprisoned there by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, remains in the same discreditable state as it did at the last period of my inspection, the 29th of October, 1835. As at the former period, so at the present, the 22nd of January 1838, the University have wholly neglected to provide, not only for the moral and religious instruction of the prisoners, but even for the ordinary celebration of Divine worship within the walls: a like want of cleanliness, and similar scenes of tumult and disorder prevail now, as then. On one occasion, lately, the keeper states, "That he was obliged to make use of personal violence to free himself from a female who assaulted him. He was alone when attacked, and obliged to strike her violently to beat her off." There were but four female prisoners on the morning of my visit; I found them sitting together at breakfast over their fire, the day-room dirty, various sorts of provisions and other articles lying about; the sleeping-cells (two sleeping in each) with beds unmade and in disorder; the infirmary untouched since its last occupancy, altogether presenting a picture which happily is now but seldom witnessed in such establishments. The keeper, as before, is still without any directions or rules for him to go by. He is absent a great portion of the day engaged in his business as a watchmaker in another part of the town. He says, "That the females do not come in under 15 years of age; that they are generally girls who have been in service, and that he has occasionally taken considerable trouble to find out their connexions, and has at times delivered them over to their friends, but that, in almost every case, they return again: that about 25 or more are brought up before the Vice Chancellor for a first offence yearly, and are discharged upon admonition, but that most of them return again in the same year.

The chancery suit between the town and university, alluded to in the last Report, has made some progress, and the Master of the Rolls has referred the matter to a Master in Chancery; but the litigation upon the subject of the administration of Hobson's Charity, can in no way justify nor palliate the protracted withholding of religious consolation, and the non-enforcement of some degree of order and regularity among these unfortunate creatures. I annex a Return of the women committed during the years 1836 and 1837, with the number of recommittals, and the length of imprisonment distinguishing each case.

Number of Women.	Number of times committed. From Nov. 1835, to Nov. 1836.	Number of times committed. from Nov. 1836, to Nov. 1837.	Length of time, from Nov. 1835, to Nov. 1836.	Length of time, from Nov. 1836, to Nov. 1837.
			Days.	Days.
1	1	1	14	14
2	..	2	..	28
3	..	1	..	14
4	1	2	7	35
5	6	7	143	115
6	6	3	141	42
7	6	4	137	31
8	3	5	55	70
9	3	2	98	28
10	2	3	28	21
11	2	2	42	22
12	1	..	28	..
13	1	..	7	..
14	1	..	21	..
15	5	2	92	28
16	1	1	14	14
17	1	..	28	..
18	1	1	14	14
19	1	..	7	..
20	1	..	28	..
21	2	6	29	92
22	1	..	28	..
23	3	..	42	..
24	1	1	7	14
25	1	2	28	14
26	4	4	64	42
27	4	1	94	14
28	3	..	42	..
29	1	..	14	..
30	3	2	47	28
31	1	..	14	..
32	2	..	21	..
33	3	1	63	14
34	1	..	14	..
35	1	..	7	..
36	4	5	49	56
37	5	3	171	38
38	1	..	7	..
39	1	2	7	28
40	1	..	7	..
41	1	..	7	..
42	1	2	7	35
43	1	..	2	..
44	6	6	141	71
45	2	..	14	..
46	2	..	28	..
47	6	3	141	42
48	..	1	..	14
49	..	1	..	21
50	..	1	..	14
51	1	2	7	28
52	..	5	..	70
53	..	1	..	14
54	..	6	..	78
55	..	3	..	28
56	..	2	..	28
57	..	5	..	42
58	..	1	..	14
59	..	1	..	28
60	..	4	..	56
61	..	1	..	28
62	..	1	..	7
63	..	3	..	21
64	..	1	..	7
65	..	1	..	14
66	..	3	..	49
67	..	1	..	14
68	1	4	15	56
69	..	2	..	42
70	..	3	..	42
71	..	2	..	28
72	..	2	..	14
73	..	4	..	84
74	..	4	..	63
75	..	2	..	14

RETURN of Women, &c., (*continued*)

Number of Women.	Number of times committed, from Nov. 1835, to Nov. 1836.	Number of times committed, from Nov. 1836, to Nov. 1837.	Length of time, from Nov. 1835, to Nov. 1836.	Length of time, from Nov. 1836, to Nov. 1837.
			Days.	Days.
76	..	2	..	28
77	..	2	..	14
78	..	2	..	28
79	..	2	..	42
80	..	2	..	35
81	..	1	..	14
82	..	1	..	14
83	..	2	..	28
84	..	1	..	14
85	..	2	..	28
86	..	3	..	56
87	..	1	..	14
88	..	1	..	14
89	..	3	..	49
90	..	1	..	14
91	..	1	..	14
92	..	1	..	14
93	..	1	..	14
94	..	1	..	21
95	..	1	..	14
96	..	1	..	14
97	..	1	..	

The number of females imprisoned in the spinning house in 1834 was 47, who were committed 96 times during the year. In 1837 the number was 54, of committals 174.

A book is kept by the keeper arranged under the following heads:—Number—date of apprehension—present residence—remarks—age—parents or friends—last situation.

For the purposes of comparison, and the perfect comprehension of the nature of this establishment, I annex the following extracts from my report of October, 1835.

Spinning House, Cambridge.

This establishment, situate in St. Andrew's-street, was founded by Thomas Hobson, in 1628, for the purpose, as expressed by him in the endowment, "of setting the poor people of the University and town of Cambridge, to work, and for a house of correction for correcting unruly and stubborn rogues, beggars, and other poor people which shall refuse work, and to provide wool and flax for their occupation.

The spinning house, as fronting the street, presents a modern brick elevation, pierced by a gate in the centre, on each side of which are the keeper's apartments. The interior buildings form a parallelogram, of which the central area is divided into four compartments or airing-yards, intended for as many classes of prisoners.

No. 1 Yard, is of a triangular shape, 42 ft. by 24; the apartments allotted to it, on the ground floor, are a day-room, 12 ft. by 12, and 10 ft. high: five sleeping cells, each 6 ft. by 9, and 8 ft. 6 in height. On the second floor are a set of rooms of the same size and number.

No. 2 Yard.—Ground floor, day-room, 13 ft. by 8 ft., 10 ft. high; two sleeping-cells, 6 ft. by 9 ft., 8 ft. 10 in. high; second floor, three sleeping-cells, 6 ft. by 9 ft., but no day-room.

No. 3 Yard.—Ground floor, day-room. 13 ft. by 8 ft., 10 ft. high; three sleeping-cells, 6 ft. by 9 ft., 8 ft. 10 in. high; second floor, three sleeping-cells, 6 ft. by 9 ft., but no day-room.

No. 4.—Precisely, as to number, apartments, and size, as No. 1. In all, six day-rooms, 31 sleeping-cells.

The infirmary is detached, and consists of two rooms, 14 ft. square, 10 ft. high, and a yard, 36 ft. by 24.

The cells have no fire-places, but are light, and look into the yards; the floors are of oak, the doors of deal, and the roofs of the cells are planked with wood of the same description.

There are no privies in the upper stories, and those in the lower story are most improperly placed at the extremity of the passages which lead to the cells; there is an utter want of ventilation, and the effluvia is most offensive and nauseous.

The premises are not detached, and are by no means secure from accidents by fire.

The chapel is on the second story, neatly fitted up, but without divisions, and is not made use of.

The property is vested in trustees, who pay for the repairs of the building, and the keeper's salary.

The University and the town of Cambridge, being both named in the endowment as participators in Hobson's benefaction, the trustees have appropriated it between them; retaining to themselves the appointment of the keeper, and paying his salary and the repairs of the buildings. In the year 1822, the sum of 1660*l.* was laid out in alterations. The proceeds of the property now remaining for its maintenance, are about 280*l.* a-year.

It appears that some dissatisfaction exists in the town of Cambridge as to its appropriation, for a suit in Chancery is now in progress to decide thereon.

The University make use of their allotted portion of the spinning house, for the inclusion of prostitutes, who are apprehended by the proctors; they are taken there generally at night. The vice-chancellor attends in the morning, and the prisoners are brought before him. A proctor is present, and the information is taken without the formality of an oath, and the offenders dealt with by sentences of imprisonment for periods not exceeding two months, or discharged upon admonition. The warrant for their detention to the keeper is in the annexed form.

To the keeper of the Spinning House, or House of Correction, in the town of Cambridge.

Whereas ———— hath been apprehended by ————, one of the proctors of the said University, within the limits and jurisdiction thereof, and has this day been brought before me, and charged with being an idle and disorderly person, suspected of incontinence, and a common street walker; which charge, as well upon the information of the said proctor, as upon the examination of the said culprit, and after having heard what the said culprit had to allege in her defence, I do adjudge to be true.

These are therefore to require and command you to receive into your custody the said culprit, and her safely to keep in your said spinning house for ————

Given under my hand and seal, at Cambridge, this —— day of ——, in the year of our Lord, 183

———— D. D. ———— of ———— College, and vice-chancellor of the University of Cambridge.

These unfortunate females are only sent to the spinning house during term time.

Diet.—The University allow sixpence, and a pint of beer, daily, to each, and coals and candles as required.

The prisoners are permitted to have what provisions they please, and generally four of them put their sixpences together, and the articles desired by them are furnished by the keeper, who admits that he makes a profit thereon: his emoluments thus obtained amount, according to his own estimation, to five or six pounds per annum. The prisoners likewise have permission to receive articles of food from their friends.

Bedding.—Flock mattress, two blankets, and cotton coverlid.

The prisoners generally sleep in pairs.

Labour.—None.

Punishments.—Refractory and unmanageable prisoners are sent to the county gaol, upon representation by the keeper to the vice-chancellor; there are two cells termed solitary, but the keeper declares that he is afraid to confine them for a longer period than eight or ten hours, lest they should commit suicide; two having attempted to strangle themselves.

Moral and Religious Instruction.—The University has made no provision for any instruction. Some benevolent ladies have occasionally visited the prison, and a clergyman, a member of King's College, some time back attended voluntarily on a Sunday, but discontinued it for private reasons; since which, no Divine service has been performed.

Health.—A very great proportion of the females received here, are infected with venereal complaints, and, when suffering in the extreme, proffer a request to the authorities to be taken in, which is granted; they are kept separate from those in health.

The surgeon, in his evidence, says, "The whole place is badly managed; common fevers are prevalent among the most dissipated of its inmates; the whole prison is ill ventilated, and ill adapted for its purposes; the effluvia from the water-closets adjoining the cells is most offensive; he considers it injurious to health, and still more so to those seeking the recovery of it.

Visits and Letters.—The prisoners are permitted to see their relations. Letters are inspected, both coming into the prison and going out.

General Discipline.—This prison appeared, upon first inspection, particularly that portion applied to vagrants, to be in a neglected and uncleanly state, but on a second visit, it was much improved in this particular. There is no sort of discipline maintained; several escapes have taken place. The prisoners are not searched, nor deprived of money, nor any other article.

They occasionally climb over the walls of one airing-yard into another; they pass their time huddled round the fires, in obscene talk, or occasionally in singing and dancing. The keeper gives it as his opinion, "That any girl not very bad, would be far worse on going out than when she came in. He has observed shades of difference, as to feeling their situations, among some of the females upon first coming in, but this has worn off by association."

The confinement has no other effect but that of keeping them out of the streets in term time. The females now come in at a much younger age than formerly; they have generally been servant girls in lodging-houses in the town.

The inutility of this establishment cannot be better exemplified than that the number of unfortunate females committed from November 4, 1834, to the day of inspection, 29th of October, 1835, was 66; the number of committals 176; averaging nearly three commitments of each individual, and the gross amount of imprisonment which they underwent was 2634 days, averaging 39 days for each.

Accounts, Expenses.—The expense to the University for the maintenance of the female prisoners, averages about 120*l.* per annum.

Keeper.—Appointed by the trustees the 18th of June, 1827. Is a watchmaker by trade, and carries on his business at a shop in Sidney-street.

Salary and Emoluments.

	£.	s.	d.	
Salary	60	0	0	Paid by the trustees.
Gratuity now paid to his wife as matron	15	0	0	ditto.
Salary as keeper of the vagrants' side .	18	18	0	by town.
Gain from prisoners' provisions . . .	6	0	0	
	99	18	0	

The keeper's appointment was merely verbally notified to him by the secretary to the trustees of Hobson's charity; he neither received, nor has he any instructions, nor rules, as to his duties, or responsibility, neither from the University, the town magistrates, nor the trustees, and describes himself as feeling very uncomfortable at times, in consequence.

Surgeon.—Salary, 100*l.* per annum, paid by the University, for medicines and attendance.

General Observations.—These will apply simply to this place, as a house of inclusion for prostitutes. Its utter deficiency in every requisite will be observed, in the above details, to be so glaring as to require but little, if any, further remark. I am quite convinced that the effect of this imprisonment, upon these unfortunates, destroys any spark of good feeling they may have yet lingering in their breasts. These females appear to be all in the same class of degradation—the lowest—from association, all alike. It is a grievous inconsistency, if not an offence against morals, to place offenders in a situation where, instead of being corrected and reformed, their "last state must become worse than their first."

A Chancery suit has now been two years pending, upon the propriety of the appropriation of this charity to the present purposes. The site and building, with some alterations, would be sufficient, under proper management, to render it very beneficially available for the purposes of a female penitentiary for unfortunate women, where labour might be enforced for the inculcation of regular habits in the irregular; and where religious and moral instruction might be instilled into the ignorant and abandoned; with the higher object in view, of permanent reformation. Such an institution would be equally advantageous to the town and University. The surgeon, in his evidence, says, "I have often heard benevolent persons declare, that if this prison were better managed, they would cheerfully give up their time to promote, in any way, the moral and religious welfare of its inmates."

Vagrant Portion.—The portion of the spinning house in the occupation of the borough, and made use of as a nightly receptacle for vagrants, remains much in the same state. The establishment of an effective police in the town, appears to have diminished their numbers, but the supplying of lodgings and food indiscriminately to persons of this class, appears to me a very questionable course. The keeper states, "That they have often money with them; they often come in a second time, and that though the words in the order for supplying them with food and lodging, are, that they quit the town the next morning, yet he has no means of ascertaining whether they do or not." There has been one death during the year, from apoplexy, caused by excessive drinking.

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THIRD REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTORS

APPOINTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE

ACT 5 & 6 WILL. IV. C. 38.

TO VISIT THE DIFFERENT

PRISONS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

III.

SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY W. CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1838.

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III.

THIRD REPORT of the Inspector of the Southern and Western District.

INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

My Lord, *Golden Square, March* 31, 1838.

Since the date of my last Annual Report, I have visited nearly 40 prisons comprehended in my district; and I have now the honour of informing your Lordship that I have completed the circuit of the twenty-six counties, including the isles of Guernsey, Jersey, and Wight, assigned to my Inquiry.

I have the satisfaction of announcing to your Lordship, that in almost all the larger prisons of my district, the general economy has arrived at a moderate degree of steadiness and correctness, and that in some it is advancing progressively. The county prisons of Wales admit of a less favourable mention, but they are also less frequented, and the funds for their support are less attainable. In the smaller prisons, generally, much amendment is still requisite. The obstacles to improvement in most prisons are the want of a sufficient number of cells, the scanty supply of turnkeys, the difficulty of furnishing suitable labour at a cheap rate, the narrow scale on which instruction is supplied, and the natural reluctance which exists to offer to chaplains and turnkeys a salary ample enough to secure the entire attention of the former, and to attract a superior class of men into the latter capacity. In regard to the discipline of female prisoners, a separate impediment too often occurs, in the circumstance, that the matron is commonly the wife of the keeper, and, from her habits and tastes, is too refined for the duties which devolve upon her office; she would generally deem it a degradation to pass several hours daily in the company of those whom she nominally superintends; very rarely does she sleep in their immediate vicinity; and I believe, on the whole, that no part of our great prisons is so much neglected as the care of their female inmates. This allusion conveys no reproach on these individuals, because their salary is usually small, or is included in the keeper's; and they have also their own domestic avocations to pursue. In some cases, indeed, a female turnkey assists the matron. And such remarks do not apply so forcibly to the smaller prisons, because in them the gaoler's wife is more on a level with her functions.

Whenever it has appeared necessary to offer any suggestion towards the correction of certain evils, I have explained my views either verbally or in writing to the visiting magistrates; and I feel the highest gratification in being able to state to your Lordship, that in almost every instance I have received the most frank and cordial attention; and that, without presuming on any interference, my propositions have, in several cases, been immediately assented to, and carried into effect. In a few instances their execution has only been delayed from an anticipation of further changes deemed likely to emanate from some new legislative measure.

The diseases which occur in prisons have not hitherto attracted much attention; and for this reason I have recorded them, in some instances, in considerable detail. In future, I hope to be enabled to deliver a complete return of diseases from all the prisons of my district. The materials have not as yet been sufficiently afforded in several prisons, but in such cases I have suggested that a regular entry should hereafter be made of all disorders; by which means a satisfactory test will be furnished of the state of health, and some approximation will be made to the solution of the important question, as to the influence of various modes of diet and of discipline upon the body and the mind. As the term of imprisonment will be now prolonged for some offences, in consequence of recent Acts of Parliament, I beg leave to record in this place the result of numerous inquiries on the subject of diet, which have tended to establish in my mind the persuasion, that, after a confinement of six months, the prisoner should receive some allowance of animal food, in those establishments in which he has previously been restricted to a nourishment entirely vegetable.

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It becomes highly desirable to define, in precise terms, the meaning to be attached to the two expressions, "Separate Confinement," and "Solitary Confinement." In some prisons, at present, the prisoner who is placed in solitary confinement (according to the sentence used by our Courts) is allowed (and, in my opinion, most judiciously) to go into the yard for a certain time daily. But if, on the new plan, and under the new phrase of separate confinement, they are to be constantly secluded in their cells, without any exercise in the open air, then separate confinement will be a more severe measure than the old solitary confinement, as practised in some prisons.

In my own district I have not been able to trace a single instance of insanity occurring as a consequence of imprisonment. But I cannot avoid inferring, from the statements both of the partisans and of the opponents of the Separate System in America, that insanity does occasionally spring up under its operation; and also that the mortality among those subjected to it is larger than that of the Auburn, or Silent System, and considerably greater than that of the English prisons, whose remarkable exhibition of health I have formerly stated to your Lordship, and have subsequently had repeated opportunities of observing. Unwilling, however, on a subject far too important for polemical minuteness, to lay any stress on inferences which may savour of one-sided controversy, I beg leave to submit to your Lordship some of the general obstacles which appear to impede the adoption in England of the Separate System, unaccompanied by exercise in the yard.

1. The difficulty and expense of procuring suitable labour for the inmate of each cell. Even when formed into gangs, or when working in concert in large rooms, it is found generally unprofitable, and even costly to supply proper employment; but how much more so will it be the case when separate materials are to be furnished? How can these be adapted to each individual capacity, and how can they be wrought by hands frequently untaught and young, or accustomed to no other than agricultural toil?

2. The want of cells sufficiently large, light, and well ventilated, in many actually existing prisons; the expense of building and fitting up such cells in new prisons; and the imperious necessity of heating them during the winter in either case. According to the Report lately made by MM. Demetz and Blouet to the French Government,—which, not content with the first information collected by MM. De Beaumont and De Tocqueville, had commissioned the former gentlemen to institute a new investigation,—the expense of building, and of properly fitting up each one such cell, in Paris, will be 3,561 francs, and in the Departments it will amount to 2,136 francs. And it is vain to expect that the outlay in this country can be much less, if, on trial, it should not prove to be even more considerable.

3. The bad smell likely to arise, particularly at certain seasons, from the open water-closet (which, in fact, will be no closet) continually present in the cell. Even in opulent private houses, however insulated, this convenience too often becomes disagreeably sensible.

4. The obstacles which the prisoner will have to encounter, if suddenly seized by illness, in making his situation known. If a bell is suspended in his cell it becomes a medium of communication, and its wanton use will provoke punishment; and if, on the other hand, he is to declare his state by knocking on his door, or by calling out, it will then be necessary that an officer should be constantly patrolling the corridor,—a measure which must indispensably augment the ordinary number of salaried attendants.

5. Since solitary or separate confinement is the most severe punishment hitherto usually resorted to in our gaols, what further punishment remains in store for those who commit offences within their cells? A prisoner, so placed, may sing, shout, blaspheme, refuse his food, reject his work, insult, or even strike his officers; but, having already arrived at the highest grade of punishment, to what infliction can recourse next be made? It is true that bread and water, or irons, or darkness, or the withdrawal of work, still remain to be tried; but most of those means could not be safely persisted in for any length of time.

6. Daily visits would be necessary from the chaplain, surgeon, and governor; but if each of these functionaries should devote only three minutes daily, on an average, to each inmate, in a prison containing only 200 prisoners, not only would a double staff of these officers be necessary, but each member of this double staff must devote himself exclusively to this business; and the salary of such chaplain and surgeon must be doubled or trebled, because these gentlemen at present support themselves in general from other sources of emolument, and seldom devote all their time to a prison.

7. By some recent Acts of the Legislature, solitary or separate confinement is restricted, even for offences of a deep dye (formerly punished as capital), to one month at a time, and to three months in the whole year. If grave crimes are to encounter only so mitigated a weight, are the lighter trespasses to endure the entire burden of separate confinement during the whole term of their imprisonment; or are the first petty theft, and the thrice-committed midnight burglary, to be treated with the same rigour?

As the United States is the only country in which separate confinement, in its present acceptation, has been practised, so also we must bear in mind that even there it has only been tried on a limited scale, that is to say, only a part of the prisoners of that country have been subjected to this mode of treatment. A large proportion of the prisoners there are placed in common gaols, which are stated to be very inferior, in general condition, to our own. We have, consequently, no example to guide us of any country which has entirely adopted this system, nor do we possess any criterion by which to calculate all the results, or all the difficulties likely to emanate from its universal adoption. And, if it should be finally deemed desirable to make an extensive, fair, and uniform trial of the Separate System in this country, to be worked in all its details, the safest mode of carrying it into practice would be to follow the example of the United States, and to erect some penitentiaries exclusively adapted to the object in view, and reserved for prisoners who are sentenced to long terms of confinement.

Without professing an exclusive adherence to any one particular system (towards the establishment of which, indeed, no sufficient data as yet exist), I venture to express my earnest dissent from any plan which contemplates the continual confinement of a prisoner to his cell, without some portion of daily exercise in the open air of the yard. If such exercise be granted, then most of the objections founded on considerations of expense, of health of body and mind, and of humanity, will be removed. All agree that every prisoner, of either sex, should have a separate sleeping cell; but it will be extremely difficult to obtain general accord to entire seclusion, unrelieved by exercise occasionally taken in the open air. If this privilege is admitted, then a cell of moderate dimensions will suffice, and the cost of the water-closet and of the water-cock will become needless. Such an arrangement will, to a certain extent, combine the two systems of silence and solitude, without straining either the one or the other to a point injurious probably to the individual, and certainly repugnant to the ordinary sympathies of the public mind. Such is the only form of solitary or separate confinement which I have ever presumed to encourage or to suggest in the few prisons which seem to me to be capable of carrying it into effect in their present state. And this method of discipline, neither too harsh nor too lax, may be executed in two ways, according to the circumstances of the prison and of the district. As far as regards the prisoner sentenced to hard labour, it will be accomplished, either by affording labour in the cell, which will be the most expensive, according to common experience, or by taking him out, at certain hours, to the tread-wheel, to stone-breaking, or to other labour in the yard. To the prisoner who works in his cell, a portion of exercise in the open yard would be allotted twice in the day, and for a time never less than half an hour (and one entire hour would be preferable) at each exercise. Such prisoners would march round the yard, at a stated distance from each other, and always in the presence of an officer. The female prisoners would be regulated in the same manner, either receiving work in their separate cells, or else conducted into a working room, laundry, or kitchen; in which places, as well as during the time of exercise, they should constantly remain under the eye of an officer of their own sex.

I have formerly stated an opinion to which I still adhere, that untried prisoners ought to have the free use of their yards, restricted from conversation with each other, and compelled to walk at a certain distance asunder. They would take their meals in their separate cells; and any individual who might prefer to seclude himself in his cell, would meet with no impediment on that head. The constant presence of a paid turnkey, instead of a wardsman, would greatly reduce the number of punishments consequent on the breach of silence.

In accordance with the system which I have here suggested, the prisoners who have not been sentenced to hard labour would pass the principal part of the day in their cells, and would take their meals there. If they desired to receive work or books, suitable facilities would be afforded; and they would take exercise twice a-day in the yard, in the regulated manner above described.

The necessity of warming the cells would still remain; the pernicious use of the

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day-room would thus become unnecessary; and the chaplain would instruct the prisoners in the chapel in companies or classes. The schoolmaster, if any, would teach in the corridors, or in a school-room, according to local convenience.

The discipline of prisons may be reasonably, and without difficulty, moulded to a certain point of rigour and of uniformity, which shall render them objects of universal dread and disgust, instead of affording, as has been sometimes the case, a prospect only moderately discouraging, or an asylum not much more cheerless than the dwelling without a home which is exchanged for it. But it seems contrary both to experience and to theory, to anticipate that prisons can ever be strained to a mechanism so perfect as considerably and permanently to diminish the amount of offences. Even colleges, academies, schools, and hospitals, under the care of the wisest and best men, and possessed of the most abundant resources, fall greatly short of their aim, and are marred by continual disappointments. Even the much extolled American Penitentiary plan has not lessened, so far as I have been able to learn, the average total of crimes in the country in which it is enforced. Delinquency depends too much upon the fluctuations of poverty, on the congregation of men in large masses, on the temptations presented by the growth of wealth, and on sudden outbreaks of violent passions, to be arrested by the discipline of prisons; nor do the majority of culprits calculate beforehand on the probable punishment of their fault. The large proportion of prisoners who can read, proves that even elementary education will not be a safeguard, unless the Christian religion has formed an essential part of it, which is too seldom the fact.

I believe, then, on these and on other grounds, which it would be presumptuous in me here more copiously to discuss, that we can only look forward with confidence to the following means as a steady check on the tendency to crime:—first, a well-organized constabulary force, prompt in all places, not merely to seize offenders, but, above all, to prevent and anticipate the commission of offence; and, secondly, the extension of summary jurisdiction, and such other measures as may tend, in the case of lighter offences, either to obviate the necessity for imprisonment, or to shorten its duration; and, lastly, the creation of new facilities for affording the means of honest labour to discharged prisoners, and, above all, to acquitted ones. The individual who quits a prison carries with him too often an ineffaceable mark, and, even when desirous of employment, is repulsed and avoided. Branded with this stigma, he leaves his cell either with one or two shillings, or with no provision at all for the next night's lodging; and, when unable to earn his daily bread, is often compelled to commit a fresh offence, and thus to repeople the place of punishment from which he has just been liberated. This last appears to me to be the most powerful impediment to that reformation of criminals which some well-meaning reasoners too rashly imagine likely to be accomplished within the walls of a prison, without any reference as to that which is to happen afterwards, when the subject of the arduous experiment emerges on the outside. The exertions of benevolent associations have, in some places, been directed towards the supply of employment for discharged prisoners,—but this extensive field has hitherto received little cultivation; a cautious promotion of emigration might contribute much; this difficult and most desirable object requires, however, consummate prudence to be observed in its pursuit, in order that no trace may be left of a premium for imprisonment.

I have the honour to remain,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient servant,
BISSET HAWKINS.

To the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

REPORTS ON SEPARATE PRISONS.

ANGLESEY (Isle of.)

Expenses incurred by the County on Prisoners, Prison, &c. for One Year, ending the 3d day of April 1837.

	£.	s.	d.
By cash paid for conveyance &c. of vagrants	32	0	3
Prosecutions of felons at the Assizes	150	12	10
Ditto at the Sessions	47	16	2
Ditto misdemeanors at the Assizes	126	3	8½
Ditto at the Sessions	0	0	0
Removing convicts from the County Gaol, on board of the convicts' ship at Woolwich	34	7	0
Gaol and House of Correction, gaoler's salary, &c.	292	9	4½
Late gaoler's superannuated pension	25	0	0
Gaol chaplain and clerk	58	16	0
Repairs of gaol, County Hall, and grand jury room	50	0	3
Exhibitions to the poor prisoners in the King's Bench and Fleet prisons	4	4	0
High constables	6	3	6
Gaol surgeon	21	0	0
Rents of rooms to hold petty sessions	9	12	6
Treasurer of the fund for the erection of a new Gaol	785	9	5

BEAUMARIS.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Beaumaris. County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—This is a modern gaol, completed in the year 1829, at an expense of about 6,509*l.* It has a boundary wall, covered at top with loose slates as a preventive of escape. Not one escape has occurred during the residence of the present keeper, nor has any alarm of fire happened. The boundary wall is high and strong, and the interior of the prison is not overlooked. The cells are light enough, and are amply sufficient in point of numbers, but they are not large enough to be suitable for solitary confinement during both day and night. Two refractory cells are provided for the punishment both of male and female prisoners; but they are not sufficiently darkened to serve as dark cells. There are six yards; one for male debtors, one for female debtors; two for male prisoners, and two for female prisoners. There are seven cells for debtors; eight for untried prisoners, of which four are for males, and four for females; and six cells for convicted prisoners, of which four are for men and two for women. There are also two extra cells adjoining the House of Correction side, both containing fire-places; but there is no bedstead in them. Some of the cells have three bedsteads; at the time of my visit three debtors were sleeping in the same cell; but in no other cell was more than one prisoner sleeping. The yards are not paved; there is a good supply of water, and the privies are good.

Management.—This prison is neat and clean throughout. The inmates are of a less corrupt description than those of many others; they usually enter for trifling offences, generally for petty thefts: they are easily governed, and the keeper believes that, owing to the comparatively simple habits of the population, the prisoners here, even when enjoying free opportunities of conversation, do not contaminate each other; the individual most likely to suffer some degree of contamination would be a very young lad, and such a one he takes care to keep separate at night. Although the cells are numerous in proportion to the inmates, yet the latter are sometimes suffered to sleep more than one in a cell. There is a lock-up house distinct from the prison; one of the new police has charge of it. There is no turnkey; when the keeper is absent, he engages a friend to come and lock up, and the matron, who is his wife, always remains; his friend also comes occasionally at other times. A turnkey would be advantageous, but the very small number of prisoners, and the trifling nature of their offences, is a fair argument against incurring the expense.

There is a solitary cell specially appropriated for the punishment of refractory debtors. Other prisoners are punished by a solitary cell for three days, on bread and water. Silence is not enjoined. Tobacco is only permitted to debtors. One debtor's wife is living here with her husband, but the gaoler found her in the same situation on entering upon his office. There is no underground cell. Towels are allowed, and also two ounces of soap weekly to each prisoner.

They are locked up at seven in winter, and from seven to nine in summer. They are unlocked at about half-past six in summer, and at daylight in winter.

There are no fixed hours for labour, but they usually begin at six and end at six in summer, and begin at daybreak and end at sunset in winter.

III.
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Anglesey.
Beaumaris. County Gaol and House of Correction.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain has no other preferment, but he is master of the grammar-school at Beaumaris. He has been in office about 11 years. He performs Divine Service, and delivers a sermon on Sunday morning; and on Wednesday morning he performs Divine Service without a sermon. He visits the prison occasionally, goes into the yards, and converses with the prisoners. The books are well supplied by the chairman of the Quarter Sessions; the chaplain has no power of ordering them. He has occasionally given a few himself. There is no schoolmaster; but he has himself taught some boys to read. He finds that the prisoners usually know how to read, and that they have some knowledge of our Saviour, and of the Lord's Prayer. Very few will take the sacrament, except those who are sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. He always delivers the sacrament four times a year; usually one or two prisoners attend, as well as the keeper's family. But prisoners frequently decline, when he has suggested to them the propriety of communicating, and this he attributes to the prevalence of dissent in Wales. The majority of the prisoners are dissenters; none, however, seem disinclined to attend the prison chapel; the debtors come regularly. The service is performed in Welsh.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—There is a room for the sick of each sex: both are provided with fire-places. The surgeon has held his office about 15 years. There has been only one death since 1829, when the prison was completed; the inmate who died was an old debtor. No malignant cholera occurred in the prison, although there was some in the town. He has known no case of low fever, nor of typhus fever, nor, indeed, of any disease worthy to be mentioned. A remarkable fact is that, during the fifteen years of his charge, he has seen not a single instance of syphilis nor of gonorrhœa. Occasionally sore legs make their appearance, chiefly among vagrants. He has never had the necessity of placing a male or female prisoner in the infirmary. During 15 years, only one woman has been delivered in the prison, and she was married. There have been perhaps three cases of itch during the last year. No influenza was seen here during the spring. There is no lunatic confined here, but there is one epileptic prisoner. The surgeon, or his partner, visits twice a-week, and more frequently, when a case occurs.

Diet.—The untried may receive food from their friends, but not so the convicted.

The bad system of allowing money to the prisoners was maintained here at the time of my visit: 2*s.* 4*d.* was allowed weekly to each for his support. A person comes round twice or thrice in the week to receive orders, and the prisoners purchase what they choose; but this is done in the presence of the keeper, and no spirits nor beer are permitted. Those who can earn this sum by hard labour, either wholly or in part, do not receive this money. A fire is kept up all the year in the day-rooms, at which the prisoners cook for themselves.

There is a good stock of clothing and bedding. The master debtors, who have superior bedding and a bedstead provided by the gaoler, pay him 4*s.* weekly. All the prisoners have coarse sheets, made from the stock of the old gaol; each one has also a rug, a blanket, and a straw mattress; two blankets are sometimes allowed. There is no rule as to clothing; prisoners continue to wear their own clothes until they are worn out; but the destitute are always supplied.

Labour.—There is no tread-wheel here, and no crank.

Men that are able to perform hard labour are employed in breaking stones, women in spinning wool and flax, boys in picking oakum. The stones, when broken, sell for 6*d.* a ton. The price of rope brought from Liverpool is from 15*s.* to 17*s.* per cwt., and when picked it is sold for 22*s.* The gaoler allows to each prisoner a penny per lb. for so much as he may pick. Some debtors also are made to pick oakum. A good washhouse has lately been prepared. The untried are the only class of persons always exempted from work.

Of the four male prisoners in the gaol at the time of my visit, only one earns 2*s.* 4*d.* a-week. The others do not earn so much, and the difference between the amount of their earnings and of the county allowance is given them, so as to make an equivalent to the 2*s.* 4*d.* allowed.

Salaries.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*	
Gaoler . .	52	0	0	(with coals and candles.)
Matron . .	10	0	0	
Chaplain. .	54	12	0	
Surgeon . .	21	0	0	(he finds medicines.)

Expenditure of the prison during seven recent years, including all items, except the salaries of the chaplain and surgeon:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
1830	288	15	5½
1831	188	9	5½
1832	243	17	7½
1833	213	19	3½
1834	217	17	0
1835	259	6	4½
1836	279	5	9½

Suicide.—No attempt has occurred during the residence of the present keeper.

Executions.—If I am rightly informed, only two have taken place here within the last 50 years.

Progress of Committals.

The number of committals, including debtors, in		1830	was 64
„	„	1831	„ 47
„	„	1832	„ 60
„	„	1833	„ 51
„	„	1834	„ 50
„	„	1835	„ 46
„	„	1836	„ 67

Number of Prisoners in confinement on 25th August 1837.—Three debtors, males, none receiving the county allowance, but gaining what they can by work.

One female prisoner, sent for want of bail.

Four male prisoners, three of whom are convicted, one from assizes, one from sessions, one a summary conviction.

Vagrants.

	In 1826.	In 1829.	In 1832.
Vagrants committed	2 men.	none.	1 man.
	..	..	..
Time of confinement	1 month.	..	2 months.
Proportion of vagrants to the total number of prisoners.	2 to 8.	..	1 to 10.

Weekly Expense.—About 3*s.* per week per head.

Registration and Account Books.—Prison register, visiting magistrates' journal, chaplain's journal, surgeon's, gaoler's ditto. The stranger's book, in which are entered the names of all who come from curiosity, and of all the visitors who come to see a prisoner.

Visits are only permitted on Saturdays. The same rule exists for the convicted and for the untried. On that day they may see all who come; the gaoler is present; and not more than two are allowed to enter at once; the visitors stand outside the iron gates.

Letters are all examined by the gaoler, but no restrictions exist as to their entrance or departure. The last rules were made in 1829; no copy remains to spare.

Average number of Prisoners is about 15. The highest number that the present gaoler has seen at once has been 28, and the lowest number has been 5. About two or three years ago, he returned for his average 12 prisoners and 6 debtors.

Diminution.—Some reduction of numbers is supposed to have taken place in consequence of more rigid discipline. The friends were formerly allowed to bring in every sort of thing to the prisoners. There is room for still more severity.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To establish a fixed prison diet, instead of the allowance of money, which exists in no well regulated prison.
2. Such a prison diet might consist of—1½ lb. of bread daily, 1 lb. of potatoes or of mixed vegetables daily, 3 pints of oatmeal gruel daily, given warm, if desired; and a liberal allowance of salt. Those actually engaged in hard labour might receive an additional half-pound of potatoes, or of mixed vegetables, daily. The untried would maintain themselves, if they desired to do so.
3. To allow sheets only for the sick, and to discontinue them for all other prisoners; being a luxury not used in the habitations of the neighbouring lower classes.
4. To place every prisoner at night in a separate cell.
5. To provide a copious prison register, with various printed headings, and ruled columns.
6. To establish greater strictness, in regard to letters and visits, in conformity with the recommendation of the Lords' Committee, and of the Home Secretary. (See Lords' Report, No. 2, page 4.)
7. To enjoin silence. Such an injunction, of course, can only be partially carried into effect, so long as there is no turnkey to superintend and watch the prisoners, in addition to the gaoler, who cannot be everywhere at once.
8. To provide a bath.
9. To set apart one or two cells for itchy prisoners, and not to permit them to be used for any other purpose.
10. The last point I allude to with reluctance and with deference. The salary of the gaoler is very small, if we consider the importance and responsibility of the office, and the much larger remuneration usually given.

BRECONSHIRE.

BRECON.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—This gaol stands at a very convenient distance from other buildings—not far from the high road, but surrounded by a lofty outer wall. It is extremely old and dilapidated. The cells are insufficient in number, and still more deficient in quality, being very small, dark, ill ventilated, and, in some instances improper to be used at all. The

access to some of the cells is so low, that it is necessary to creep into them. It is remarkable that scarcely any windows throughout the goal have been constructed so as to open; nearly all are permanently closed. One ward is set apart for the debtors of both sexes, two wards for the male prisoners, and one ward for all the female prisoners, both untried and convicted. There is a privy in each yard, not in good condition, and a good supply of water. There is no good dark cell for the punishment of the refractory.

I found no less than 16 of the men sleeping two in a bed. There is no separation between the male and female debtors.

There are 5 rooms for male debtors,
2 „ female debtors,
In the gaol side 8 cells for male prisoners,
5 „ female prisoners,
In House of Correction 5 „ male prisoners,
4 „ female prisoners, (including a sick room.)

The cells in the gaol, females' side, are at present used solely for men; and the number of women happens to be in general very small.

There is no dark cell for the men, no infirmary for the men, and no bath.

The tread-wheel is out of order. It is very necessary to erect a new gaol here; the present building will never answer the purposes of one, and it is almost incapable of improvement in its actual state.

Management.—The present gaoler, matron, and head turnkey have only been in office during a few months, and consequently have not much matter to communicate; the nature of the building opposes every obstacle to the introduction of a good system. The magistrates have recently framed new rules, brief and important, founded on the recommendation of the Home Secretary in 1835. Silence is enjoined, and the other recommendations emanating from the Report of the Lords' Committee have been adopted. Tobacco is not allowed, except to debtors. The plan intended to be observed is, that all convicted persons who are not at work shall be compelled to walk round the yard, or otherwise be locked up in solitary cells.

The prisoners dress their food in their day-rooms, and a fire is kept up in the day-rooms throughout the year.

Solitary confinement is here entirely confined to the case of soldiers, who often remain for a month at a time in that state. The commanding officer transmits an order to that effect, which has hitherto been carried into effect, but I have suggested that the actual cells are totally unfit to be applied to such a purpose. The soldier thus confined has been permitted to leave the cell for half an hour in the morning, and half an hour in the evening. He has the same diet as the other prisoners.

Account Books and Registration.—Prison registers, two; debtors' book, bread book, punishment book, surgeon's journal, chaplain's and visiting magistrates' journal, in one and the same book; prisoners' property book.

Diet.—The following is the daily allowance for each prisoner:—1½ lb. of best wheaten bread, at 3*d.*; 1 lb. of potatoes; 4 oz. of meal, to make gruel with. Salt is supplied without limitation. There is no extra food allowed to prisoners on hard labour, but, as the hard labour at present here is rather light, this circumstance is not now felt to press heavily.

The soldiers who are sent hither for solitary confinement are ordered to be placed on bread and water, by the warrant of committal, but this is very properly mitigated, and the ordinary diet is allotted to them; which, in the present state of the cells, is abundantly necessary.

Labour.—The tread-wheel is awkwardly placed; it is enclosed within walls, very contracted in space, and opens on the yard by a small gate. There is scarcely room within for those who are waiting for their turn on the wheel to remain at ease. The wheel is now out of repair; it moves so easily, that only one or two can now use it at once, and even then, its motion affords scarcely any real labour. It is applied to raising water.

The washing is all done by the female prisoners.

Salaries.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Gaoler, per annum	128	16	0
Matron, ditto.	20	0	0
Principal turnkey . . . . . 1*l.* per week.			
Second ditto . . . . . 16*s.* ditto.			
(He does not live in the house.)			
Surgeon, (finds medicines)	40	0	0
Chaplain	40	0	0
N. B. The gaoler and head turnkey receive coals, candles, and soap.			
A widow, formerly matron of the gaol, is allowed an annuity of	10	0	0

Miscellaneous Expenses.

Tiling and whitewashing per annum	6	10	0
Plumber and glazier	6	0	0
Prisoners' shoes cost per pair, men's . . . 7*s.* 0*d.*			
„ women's . . . 4*s.* 6*d.*			
Bread is bought at 2*d.* per lb.			
Barber, per annum	5	0	0

Total Expenditure of the Prison for 1836, *exclusive of the Chaplain's and Surgeon's Salaries.*

	£.	s.	d.
Subsistence of prisoners, gaoler, matron, and turnkey's salaries, and other gaol expenses	550	12	1

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain lives in the town, and is the assistant curate of St. Mary's, a chapelry in this town; he has been appointed since the year 1835, but occasionally assisted the former chaplain when ill. He reads divine service, and delivers a sermon on Sundays, sometimes in English, sometimes in Welsh, and sometimes he reads partly in both languages, according to the number of prisoners. Service is also performed on Christmas-day and on Good Fridays. He usually visits the prisoners once a-week, but if there is illness among any, he comes nearly every day. He never offers to administer the sacrament at stated times in the year, and only would offer it to the sick or a condemned prisoner; but there has been no condemned prisoner since he has been chaplain. He has given it when requested to do so by the prisoners, who have been convicts in each instance: this request has occurred two or three times. When he has offered the sacrament to sick prisoners they have declined receiving it. He never recollects an instance in which a prisoner told him he had ever received the sacrament. The prisoners almost always know the Lord's Prayer and the Belief, certainly the majority do; several make the responses in the chapel. The soldiers are the most ignorant of the prisoners, but the greater part of them can read. The majority profess to belong to no sect at all; however, they have chiefly attended dissenting chapels. The prisoners here are for the most part poachers, or have committed petty offences. The governor, his wife, and the two turnkeys generally attend the chapel on Sundays. The chaplain is always treated by the prisoners with deference, and there has never been reason to complain since he has been here of a prisoner not hearing the service read with reverence. The debtors formerly did not regularly attend chapel on Sundays, but have been more punctual since the present governor has been here. The prisoners sometimes teach each other: the chaplain has occasionally bought books for them himself, to encourage them in this pursuit; but the prisoners have never been taught to read while at the prison, they remain there so short a time. The chaplain occasionally takes prisoners into the day-room, or magistrates' room, and talks to them by themselves, but this he does only to those notoriously bad; the rest of the prisoners he turns into the yard. He can procure Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer-books, but no other books: he is desirous of purchasing some interesting religious writings for the use of the prisoners, and made an application to the magistrates to that effect, wishing to have about 2*l.* yearly for that purpose, but this request has not been acceded to. Books are but scantily supplied. I found three prisoners in solitary cells (all soldiers) without any books, and all desirous to have some.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has been in office four or five years. He attended two or three years previously to assist the former aged surgeon attached to the gaol. He recollects no epidemic disorder here; there was no malignant cholera, although a few cases occurred in the town. During the last spring, three or four men were ill at once with the influenza; they were kept in their cells, because there is no infirmary for males. No woman was ill enough to require removal into the female infirmary room. There are but few syphilitic cases here, chiefly among soldiers; itch occurs sometimes. He observes that an eruption (not the itch) often happens soon after admission, but it is easily removed by aperients. Low fever is rare; he has seen no case of ague, nor of scurvy. There is no lunatic at present in confinement.

The following table is correct as far as it goes, but some of the blanks are unknown.

	Total of Sick.	Greatest number of Sick at once.	Deaths.
From Michaelmas 1828 to Michaelmas 1829 . .	..	..	..
„ 1829 „ 1830 . .	..	..	..
„ 1830 „ 1831 . .	5	2	0
„ 1831 „ 1832 . .	..	..	..
„ 1832 „ 1833 . .	0	1	1
„ 1833 „ 1834 . .	4	2	2
„ 1834 „ 1835 . .	2	1	0
„ 1835 „ 1836 . .	2	2	2

No death has happened from January 1837 to September of the same year.

The surgeon has observed that soldiers placed in solitary cells suffer much both in body and mind; in winter additionally from the coldness of the cells. They have complained to him of the want of books, and have said that they would rather be hung than remain there. He has seen particular diseases arise from this solitary confinement during the winter, such as rheumatism and catarrh. In his opinion, in which I most heartily concur, the present cells are most unfit for such confinement. One soldier was lately in the prison ten months; he had been placed in solitary confinement during the alternate months; and when he was dismissed he appeared to the surgeon to have suffered greatly in his health. He has ordered extra blankets in the winter, and sometimes has procured their removal to the day-room. He gave medicines in many slight cases not noticed in the Annual Returns. He or his partner usually go to the prison every other day; oftener if required; sometimes twice even, or three times in a day, when any serious case has occurred

The prisoners at one time in his recollection took the rind from off their faggots, and cut off the tail of their shirts, and with this compound formed a kind of tobacco.

Suicides.—During the surgeon's connexion with this place, one man cut his throat, another one attempted to do so, and another tried to strangle himself. The two last mentioned were in solitary cells. But none of the three succeeded in self-destruction.

Escapes.—During the same time, or in the last four years, four escapes have occurred. One was on the road to London; one got over the wall by cutting up his blanket; two others made off in a doubtful mode; one only of the four was retaken.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

Having given my opinion that the present gaol is utterly unfit for its object, I suggested, if the magistrates should finally determine upon rebuilding it, that it would be expedient to defer the undertaking until the Imprisonment for Debt Bill is decided. In the mean time the following improvements in the present system of the gaol were recommended for immediate adoption:—

1. That a room be immediately set apart for the sick males.
2. To purchase such a number of iron bedsteads, and such a quantity of bedding, as will enable every prisoner, male and female, to have a separate bed.
3. To put the privies in proper order.
4. That solitary confinement should not be enforced in the present gaol for a longer period than three days at a time, and that an interval of at least three days should elapse between each such confinement; that during winter a sufficient quantity of bedding should be allowed at the discretion of the surgeon.
5. That a temporary shed be erected in one of the yards in order to introduce the breaking of stones into this prison.
6. That half a pound of potatoes or mixed vegetables be daily given to those actually employed in hard labour in addition to the present diet.
7. To establish some mode of separation between the male and female debtors.
8. That an engineer be sent for to examine and repair the tread-wheel.
9. That 2*l.* annually be allowed to the chaplain for the purpose of procuring books for the use of the prison.
10. To open two casements in the chapel, and to make a few trifling alterations in the chapel, as suggested on the spot.

I abstained from recommending any alterations in the present building and cells, which are probably some of the worst in England or Wales, because, I conceived that the present building under any expenditure was incapable of being placed in proper condition; the only remedy, therefore, is the erection of an entirely new building.

In order to carry a portion of the above recommendations into effect, the governor was immediately desired by the magistrates to procure,

1st. Eighteen small and light iron bedsteads, capable of holding one person each, and a corresponding quantity of bedding, also four pair of sheets, to be kept in store for the use of the sick.

2d. To have the privies put in order, and to carry the other recommendations into effect as far as present circumstances will admit.

General Statistics.

No. I. Number of prisoners in confinement at the date of my visit, September 9th, 1837:—

Male debtors	7	
Prisoners for trial	2	males.
One deserter	1	
Prisoners under sentence . .	19	(18 males and 1 female.)
Total . . .	29	

No. II. Progress of the population of the prison during several late years. The number committed in each year was,

From Michaelmas	1828	to Michaelmas	1829 . .	70
„	1829	„	1830 . .	85
„	1830	„	1831 . .	84
„	1831	„	1832 . .	73
„	1832	„	1833 . .	113
„	1833	„	1834 . .	105
„	1834	„	1835 . .	94
„	1835	„	1836 . .	103

No. III. Number of prisoners committed from Courts Martial.

In 1833	23
1834	18

No. IV. Number of deserters committed in 1833, 1834, and 1835, amounted to ten.

No. V. Number of vagrants.

In 1826	8
1829	14
1832	3

The proportion of vagrants to the total number of prisoners was,

In 1826.	1-10th.
1829.	1-5th.
1832.	1-22d.

BRECON.—BOROUGH DEBTORS' PRISON AND LOCK-UP HOUSE.

This is a small house, situated in the public street. I found a debtor in the kitchen, with the upper part of the doorway open to the street. There are two apartments for debtors, in a moderate state of repair. There is also an underground cell, into which drunken persons are put, who are brought in on night charges. There is another lock-up room above stairs, of a better description. There is no yard, and only one privy for the keeper's family, the debtors, and the inmates of the lock-up cells. The furniture and bedding of the debtors' apartments belong to the borough.

The keeper is superintendent of the new police; he has a salary of 20*l.* a-year for the gaol, and 10*l.* for the police. He has no coals nor candles allowed him, nor soap, nor is any straw provided for the underground cell at the public expense.

There is often a lock-up case every night, but such cases only stay one night in general. A more secure lock-up house is highly requisite. The whole is more clean than can be expected from the salary and the premises. The diet is a loaf of bread, price 3*d.*, which is given daily to poor debtors, and to persons sent in on night charges, who may need the allowance. The present keeper has been in office for two years; his wife appears to assist in the care. The greatest number of persons confined here at once during that period has been four; I believe that no female has been placed here during that time. At the date of my visit there was only one debtor here.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. If imprisonment for debt should continue, this gaol will require enlargement, or removal to another situation, because the debtor has no yard here in which he can take exercise, and his situation is quite insecure. This is the fault of the place, not of the keeper, who acts humanely in allowing a little indulgence to the debtor who has no yard to walk in.
2. There is only one privy for the keeper's family, the debtors, and the inmates of the lock-up cells; an additional one is indispensable.
3. It would be but moderate justice to allow the keeper a sum for straw, soap, coals, and candles.
4. Even if a debtor's gaol for the borough should be hereafter unnecessary, it will be very desirable in every point of view to establish a suitable lock-up house, of which the present house is the very reverse.
5. One of the lock-up cells is underground and unfit for its purpose.

BRISTOL.—NEW CITY BRIDEWELL.

Construction.—This building is new, neat, and clean; but it is too contracted in its dimensions, and occupies too small a space of ground.

The total cost, by estimates and extra work, of erecting this bridewell was 6,276*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*

The number of cells is 48.

There are 3 yards for males,
6 day-rooms for ditto,
3 yards for women,
6 day-rooms for ditto,
1 wash-house, and
2 infirmary rooms.

One of the front yards is not secure. The male cells are usually good; but are not suitable to solitary confinement during day and night. Some of the female cells are ill-ventilated, and are too dark, but these are rarely necessary to be used; the others are good. There are two very good dark cells for the refractory; and some other cells, not intended for that purpose, would answer as well.

The wash-house is too dark; the windows might be enlarged. The doors of the female privies have no handles, and they open and shut by a pulley-cord, with a very improper heavy thick iron appended to it; this should be removed, and the doors should be made to open more freely.

There is a fixed stone bath, and also a bathing tub.

Management.—The keeper was appointed in March 1836, on the opening of the prison. The prisoners are together in the yards and day-rooms, and, on the whole, a considerable degree of communication and conversation seems to prevail, which might be thoroughly checked by the engagement of an additional turnkey. The longest time that any woman has remained here has only been two months, except a girl, who is now in custody for the purpose of giving evidence. The women are not suffered to make a noise, but here, as elsewhere, the communication among the female prisoners is less restricted than among the males. No visits are ordinarily permitted to be made to the prisoners, and all letters are opened and read by the keeper. He has known no attempt at suicide, nor has there been any alarm from fire. He weighs the bread daily; it is sent in from a baker; the prisoners have occasionally com-

plained of it, and did so to myself. Silence is moderately well observed, but, with the present scanty complement of only one turnkey, its strict observance is scarcely to be anticipated. No rules exist, either in printed form or in manuscript, or in verbal order, except that the magistrates have directed the gaoler to enforce the rules recommended in the circular of the Home Secretary, transmitted in 1835.

The longest term of imprisonment here is for three months; the greater part remain only seven days. All the prisoners are sent hither by the city magistrates. No convictions from assizes and quarter sessions remain here. No whippings take place here; the punishment for the refractory is 24 hours in a solitary cell. The bedding consists of a mattress and one rug in summer, and of a mattress and two rugs in winter; the rugs are large and thick. There is no stock of clothing; when a prisoner has been destitute (which has twice happened) the magistrates have supplied him with clothes.

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.
Surgeon (finds medicines) . . .	31	10	0
Keeper (has coals and candles) . .	100	0	0
Matron	20	0	0
Turnkey (has coals and candles) .	39	0	0

Registration and Account Books.

1. Surgeon's Journal.
2. Chaplain's (is kept at home by himself.)
3. Visiting Magistrates'.
4. Conduct Book.
5. General Register.
6. Assault Cases.
7. Vagrants'.
8. Wilful Damage.

Inventory of Bedding.

	Number.
Double rugs.	58
Mattresses	54
Bedsteads	48
Pairs of blankets for the use of the sick . . .	6

Diet.—At the time of my visit, only 1½ lb. of seconds bread was daily allowed to each prisoner. This bread appeared to me very indifferent, at all events very badly baked. Every Sunday each prisoner was allowed to receive a meal from his friends without, brought in a basin. Since my visit, and perhaps at my suggestion to one of the visiting magistrates, a small addition has been made to the diet in the shape of 1½ pint daily of gruel. This addition, however, falls short of the extent of my suggestion, which went so far as three pints of gruel, and an allowance of potatoes daily. No beer nor spirits are suffered to be introduced.

Labour.—The labour consists in breaking stones, and in reducing oyster-shells to powder. There is no profit derived from it. The women all wash for themselves, and for the male prisoners.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs Divine service once on Sundays, and preaches a sermon. The rector of the out-parish of St. Philip is the chaplain to the city gaol, and, in virtue of that appointment, he (or his curate) performs Divine service here; but no salary is specially allotted to him as chaplain to this bridewell. One of these gentlemen makes a visit every Wednesday, and goes into the wards or yards. There is a ladies' committee; one of these two ladies comes on Sundays, and the other on Wednesdays, to teach the female prisoners. These ladies have taught one young woman (who is now here) to read. On Sundays, also, some dissenters belonging to the Strangers' Friend Society come to instruct the prisoners. The matron is always present at chapel.

General Statistics.

No. I. The total number of commitments, from the opening of the prison in March 1836 up to June 22, 1837, has been

Assaults	353	
Wilful damage	36	
Vagrants	298	(including disorderly women.)
Miscellaneous cases. . . .	128	

But many other cases have been sent hither during that time on charges.

No. II. Number of prisoners confined at the date of my visit in June 1837:—

Male prisoners	31	(of whom are on hard labour 20.)
Female prisoners	10	(all on hard labour.)

Another female is placed here to give evidence; she had been here already for 10 weeks.

No. III. Greatest number at one time 88
„ „ of women 23

No. IV. Lowest number at one time 16
(During the winter, for a few days, not one female was in confinement.)

No. V. Ordinary number of prisoners is about. . 30
But from the Saturday to the Monday there are usually about double that number here.

Remarkable Accident resulting from an attempt to warm the Cells.

The following fatal event is inserted here, first, because a part of our office is to give publicity to the transactions of prisons; and, secondly, because it may possibly prevent the occurrence of a similar misfortune elsewhere. I have taken it verbatim from the "*Bristol Mercury*" of February 4th 1837.

"An inquest was held yesterday, at the White Lion, St. James's Back, on the bodies of George Brown, aged 24, and John Brooks Knight, aged 17, prisoners in Bridewell, who were found dead in their cell, on Thursday morning last. The coroner having charged the jury, they proceeded to view the bodies; that of Brown, with the exception of a few red marks on the arm, presented no unusual appearance. Knight's face was much swollen and disfigured, and blood had issued from his nostrils. (Brown was committed January 26th, for vagrancy, and Knight, on the 28th, for assaulting his grandmother.) Having viewed the bodies, the jury proceeded to the infirmary of the Bridewell, in order to take the deposition of the prisoner who was rescued from the cell alive, and who is now slowly recovering.

"John Belcher sworn.—I was a prisoner in Bridewell on Wednesday last. By the rules of the prison we must retire to our cells at some time between 5 and 6 o'clock; I retired soon after 5 o'clock; the deceased came in about half an hour afterwards; we had slept together in the same cell five or six nights before; it was the first cell on the right hand on the ground floor; there was an iron bedstead in the cell, but we did not sleep on it, because it was not large enough; I put the beds on the floor; I did so for our greater comfort, and not by desire of the gaoler; we had two beds and bedding for three persons, which consisted of a woollen rug under us, and three rugs to cover us; Brown slept in the middle, I slept next to the wall, and Knight nearest the bedstead; Brown complained to me that he had a cramp or a pain across his stomach, but I thought it was the cold, and I said, 'Lie down, and go to sleep, and you will be better;' I did not call for assistance, because I thought when he went to sleep it would be nothing; before I got into bed I shut the window and door; the turnkey locked us in about 6 o'clock; he asked if we were all there, and I said yes, three of us; he looked at us, and we made no complaint; it was before that Brown spoke of the pain in his stomach; when I entered the cell I found no smell; it was warmer than usual: there was a fire in a pot on the elevated part of the bedstead; the clothes were rolled up at the other end; the turnkey took the fire away when he locked us up; I cannot tell whether it was a coal fire, it was a red fire, and not a blazing one; I had never seen a fire there before; I had complained to the turnkey of the cold; the walls were so damp that we could sweep the wet off them with our hands; he said he would warm the cell, and that was why we had a fire; I was in the cell an hour before the fire was removed, but was not locked in; when the turnkey took away the fire the window was closed, and neither it nor the door was opened afterwards; the turnkey did not recommend it to be left open; there was no smell in the cell, whether of smoke or otherwise; it was quite agreeable to us to have the fire there; we were three in a cell at our own request, for the purpose of being warm; Brown complained of his stomach before, but I thought nothing of it; I went to sleep about 8 o'clock, I cannot tell when they did; I woke in the night, and found myself unable to move or speak; I can give no account of the illness or death of my companions, as I was insensible, and did not know they were dead till I was told of it.

"By the jury.—I felt all over pains, and cramps in my thighs and arms. The jury now returned to the White Lion, where

"John Kelly deposed as follows:—I was confined in the Bridewell on Wednesday last; the governor, Mr. Williams, gave me an old tin-pot (now produced) in which sticks and coals were burning, and desired me to carry it into the cells; I took it into six cells, and let it stay about a quarter of an hour in each; while it was in the cell I shut the door and windows, and when I took it out I opened them again; the last cell to which I carried it was that in which the prisoners died; I took it there about 10 minutes before 5; I did not place it on the bedstead, but on the ground close by.

"By the jury.—I let it stay there about 20 minutes, and then moved it out and opened the door and windows; I am quite certain I did so three-quarters of an hour before the prisoners went to bed; after I had taken it out I put the pot in the kitchen adjoining the cells; nobody was present when I did so.

"Coroner.—Belcher states that he saw the pot there when he went to bed, can you account for that? Witness.—If that is the case they must have moved it in again when they went to bed; Mr. Williams invented it, as the prisoners complained of cold, and that when they awoke in the morning the rugs were always wet; the fire was nearly out when I put it in the kitchen; I was the first that saw the dead men in the morning; they did not come for their bread as usual, and the turnkey told me to call them up; when I called them they did not answer me; I opened the windows and saw Brown and Knight lying apparently dead, and Belcher all doubled up and groaning; I called the turnkey, and sent for the doctor, who arrived in about 10 minutes.

"Robert Lewis and Richard Burnam gave similar testimony as to finding the bodies.

"Thomas Williams deposed that he was keeper of Bridewell; the sleeping cells were very damp; you could wipe the water of the walls in the morning; the prisoners complained of cold, and one of them said if he could get a pot of fire he could cure it; he (witness) got him one, and it was used in the cells in another ward, and the plan succeeded very well up to Wednesday; Kelly asked him to let him use it, and, in order to add to the comfort of the prisoners, he let him do so; the deceased prisoners and Belcher were confined in the same cell; it measured about 6 ft. by 8 ft., and about 9 ft. high; it had a wooden door to shut close, and a grated window with shutters, which may be opened or closed by the prisoners at pleasure; it is always usual to put three in a cell when the Bridewell is crowded; it was so on Wednesday; our orders were never to let two sleep together, but always three or one.

"By the jury.—Had seen the men two or three times in the day; all the cells are damp; four are so bad I do not put men into them.

"Re-examined.—I have never known prisoners' health injured by the damp.

"By the jury.—I am of opinion that the cells are not fit for men to sleep in, and therefore I tried to warm them, as it had succeeded in the other parts of the Bridewell; I do not know that anything

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has been said about it to the proper authorites; it might have been mentioned in conversation; I have been allowed coal since the 21st of November.

"By the Coroner.—The magistrates have been to Bridewell since these deaths, and, I believe, warm air is to be introduced.

"Thomas Moon, turnkey, deposed to locking up the prisoners: there was no fire-pot in the cell at the time; he saw it in the kitchen as he went in to lock up. He also deposed to missing the prisoners at the distribution of bread in the morning, and sending for them. Kelly came back and said that one or all of them were dead; he went to the cell and found Knight and Brown dead; he took Belcher out and fetched the surgeon, Mr. Ruddock.

"By the jury.—Has heard prisoners complain of the dampness of the cells, and that they had found their rugs damp in the morning; had not known their health suffer; one of them asked him to get him the kettle and he would stove the cell himself, and he did so.

"Mr. Ruddock, surgeon, deposed to having examined the bodies; the appearances were those commonly produced by suffocation; burning stick and coal in a small chamber without a chimney would probably produce carbonic acid gas, which, as it is heavier than atmospheric air, would occupy the lower part of the cell, so that a person may stand upright without being affected, and yet become insensible upon lying down; carbonic acid gas cannot be breathed without danger to life; I have no doubt the deceased prisoners were suffocated by carbonic acid gas, produced by the pot of coals.

"By the jury.—It is likely the room would have got clear by a continued draught of air, but I cannot say in what time; I do not think the cells being damp would have accelerated death; Belcher was nearly dead when I saw him.

"The coroner having summed up, the jury said they did not consider any blame attached to the keeper of Bridewell or his officers, who appeared to have acted with great humanity, but it was their wish to record their opinion that the cells of Bridewell are not fit for the reception of any human being. The coroner suggested that it would be better for him to wait on the mayor and express their opinion. The foreman said they wished their opinion to go forth to the public in connexion with their verdict, and they therefore found that 'they died from suffocation, caused by the carbonic acid gas, produced by fire intended to warm the cell, and that the Bridewell is not in a fit state for prisoners to sleep in.'"

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has never seen any disease here arising apparently from low diet; but the prisoners remain so short a time, that the operation of the diet is scarcely tested. Prisoners who have been used to a stimulating diet seem to suffer. He has witnessed no case of scurvy. The cells are not damp in winter at present, in his opinion; at all events they are now becoming drier. He visits twice a-week, or daily, if a case occurs. He has no allowance made to him for leeches, which are sometimes necessary. It would certainly be just to allow him the price of such leeches and such sulphate of quinine as he may occasionally deem it necessary to order. He has seen no instance of suicide. There is no lunatic prisoner here.

From September 29th 1836 to September 29th 1837 the number of invalids in the house, that came under his care, was 174; of this number, 14 were of a sufficiently severe character to oblige him to remove them from their cells to the infirmary, where they all ultimately recovered; the largest number of sick at one period was 10.

Since his appointment as medical officer, in May 1836, up to the above-named time two deaths have occurred, and these were caused by the accident described in the preceding extract from the "*Bristol Mercury*;" since that time hot air has been introduced into the prison with the desired effect.

For the generality of prisoners he deems the diet sufficient, both in quantity of food and quality. He has the power of ordering anything extra that may be necessary.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. A water-closet or night-stool is wanted in the female infirmary.
2. Sheets for the sick should be provided.
3. The quality of bread sent in should be watched.
4. The small stock of clothes requires to be increased.
5. The upper day-rooms in some wards might be converted into sleeping-cells; two day-rooms are not necessary in each ward.
6. No salt is provided at present for the prisoners.
7. Another turnkey is wanted; he might sleep in the room adjoining the chapel.
8. A wooden door would be useful, instead of a gate, to No. 2, Women's Yard; they see the men when going to get water, and look into the turnkey's room.
9. The diet requires to be improved; it is too low at present.
10. More light and air should be admitted into the wash-house.

CARDIGANSHIRE.

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE OF THE COUNTY ON PRISONS AND PRISONERS DURING SIX RECENT YEARS.

	1827			1828			1829			1830			1831			1832		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Gaol: Building and repairs, including rent	39	9	11	81	8	7½	28	7	11½	29	0	0	68	0	1	11	16	6
Salaries and gratuities of governor and other officers	135	0	0	180	0	0	180	0	0	182	8	6	181	17	6	170	0	0
Clothing, maintaining, and employing prisoners	70	5	2½	98	8	3¾	75	15	9½	103	11	4½	151	4	2½	115	14	11½
House of Correction: Building and repairs, including rent	51	12	0	19	3	2½	.	.		1	11	4	126	0	0	35	12	0
Salaries and gratuities of keepers and other officers	7	17	6	10	10	0	15	15	0	10	10	0	10	10	0	10	10	0
Clothing, maintaining, and employing prisoners	20	15	9	13	7	9	20	17	2	41	10	11	46	11	9	40	5	2
Lock-up-houses: Building and repairs	.	.		.	.		.	.		.	.		.	.		22	9	2½
Prisoners: Apprehending and conveying	15	12	6	71	11	6½	6	13	6	8	8	5	15	7	8	16	15	5
Transports: Conveying for embarkation.	.	.		32	16	0	.	.		.	.		.	.		47	0	0
Prosecutions: Costs at assizes	337	17	8	291	9	0	23	2	4	125	7	10	202	10	9	87	2	7
Prosecutions: Costs at sessions	117	19	5	110	19	10	27	10	9	95	7	9	70	6	11	63	2	5

Expenditure of the County of Cardigan Prisons and Prisoners, during the Year 1836.

III.
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Cardiganshire.

An account of monies paid for the maintenance of prisoners; for the re-building, enlarging, and repairing of gaols, houses of correction, and lock-up houses; and for salaries to chaplain, surgeon, gaolers, &c., in the said county, for the year 1836.

Gaol and House of Correction at Cardigan.

	£.	s.	d.
Repairs, maintenance, &c.	148	9	5½
Chaplain's salary	40	0	0
Surgeon's salary	40	0	0
Gaoler's salary	90	0	0
Matron's salary	10	0	0

House of Correction at Aberystwyth.

Repairs, maintenance, &c.	28	12	2
Keeper's salary	10	10	0

Lock-up House at Lampeter.

Repairs, &c.	0	7	0
	£367	18	7½

CARDIGAN.—COUNTY GAOL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Cardigan. County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—The cost of building, by Nash, was about 7,000*l.*; it was finished in 1796. It stands by the side of the high road. It can contain, in separate cells, 6 debtors and 16 criminals; and, if more than one individual is placed to sleep in a cell, it can hold 24 debtors and 18 criminals. The greatest number confined here at once, during the year ending Michaelmas 1835, was 11 criminals and 8 debtors. It is neither secure nor well planned.

The Dimensions.—Of the debtors' rooms, 10 ft. long by 12 broad. Of cells in house of correction, 9 ft. long by 7 broad. Of cells in the gaol, 7 ft. long by 6 ft. 6 in. The windows are all glazed, except those in the gaol.

The number of cells is as follows:—

For debtors—male, 6; female, 2.

For gaol prisoners—male, 3; female, 3.

For house of correction prisoners—male, 3; female, 3.

4 day-rooms (exclusive of the debtors'), 6 yards, 4 work-rooms.

Management.—Since there are only the keeper and the matron to superintend the inmates, it is scarcely possible that a rigid discipline can be maintained; but I believe that the present keeper does as much in this respect as can be reasonably anticipated. The prisoners are together in the day, but are locked up in separate cells at night. If silence is ever to be enforced here it can only be accomplished through the assistance of a turnkey, whose aid is highly requisite on every account.

The prisoners take their meals together in the day-rooms, and have free use of the yards. They are allowed to receive visits, for a short time, in the presence of an officer, and letters are permitted after they have been examined by the keeper.

Irons are only used in case of an attempt to escape; the last instance was in 1834.

There is only one dark cell, which is converted into such by putting up a shutter.

Reduction of diet to bread and water is an occasional punishment.

The stock of bedding is ample; that of clothing for the prisoners is scanty. There is a good supply of books, both in Welsh and English.

Punishments.—The principal offence in the prison is talking; they are remonstrated with for the first and second offence, but on the third they are placed in a solitary cell, receiving the whole of their bread with water.

Punishment by whipping has not been practised for many years.

Number of punishments for offences committed within the prison, from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837:—Solitary confinement, 4; other punishments, 5.

Labour.—The hours of labour are eight daily, except in the three winter months, when they work from sunrise to sunset, setting apart half an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner.

Statistics of prison occupations, from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837:—Prisoners employed: hard labour, 10; employment, not being hard labour, 4; prisoners not employed, 9.

The tread-wheels afford the principal hard labour; and breaking stones, white-washing, carding, spinning, knitting, sewing, washing, and mending, are also made sources of employment.

Labour is considered a severe punishment for about the first six weeks, afterwards they do not feel it so irksome.

Religious and other Instruction.—I insert a part of the communication made to me by the chaplain in his own words.

"The justices of the peace of this county appointed me chaplain of the gaol and house of correction of the county of Cardigan, on the 15th of July 1818, at a stipend of 40*l.* per annum, and, in the year 1823, I was licensed, on their nomination, by the Bishop of St. David's, to the chaplaincy of said gaol and house of correction at the same stipends. Divine service is performed and a sermon preached in the chapel of the said prison, on every Sunday, Christmas-day, and Good-Friday, and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered whenever a prisoner desires to partake of it.

"Most of the prisoners read portions of the Holy Scriptures and of the Common Prayer-book every day, and those who can read teach those who cannot read; and by such instructions many of the prisoners have been taught to read their Bibles. All the wards are properly supplied with Bibles, Testaments, and Common Prayer-books; and all the prisoners (unless prevented by indisposition) regularly attend Divine service, and they attend to my religious and moral instructions when I visit them on the days of the week.

"There was a prisoner for debt in this prison a few years ago, who could not read a word when he came into prison, but before he went out he could read his Welsh Bible very well; he was 75 years of age, and was in prison about a twelvemonth, consequently the inhabitants of the neighbourhood from whence he came said that Cardigan gaol was the best place in the world to teach people to read; this man would not attend at a Sunday-school before he went to prison, but after he returned home his neighbours were surprised to find him to be the first man at the Sunday-school on every Lord's-day; and many people besides him learnt to read their Bibles, during their stay in Cardigan gaol, since I have been the chaplain of the said prison; and, with few exceptions, the prisoners conduct themselves with great propriety.

"In general I serve the gaol on Sunday, at 9 o'clock in the morning; the regular duties of my parish, as vicar of Cardigan, on Sunday, being at 11 in the morning and 3 in the afternoon. Perhaps the average number of prisoners confined in the gaol and house of correction of the county of Cardigan may be about *fifteen*. The prison has been much improved, in every respect, since the present governor came into office.

"Only *three persons* have been executed in the county of Cardigan since I have been the chaplain of the said county gaol. 1. William James, late of the parish of Llanbadarn-Tref-Eglwys, in the said county, for a burglary, was, on the 13th of October 1821, hanged, in front of the county gaol, in the presence of an immense concourse of people, who seemed to be very much affected at the awful sight; (no one was executed in the county, since 1801, till this took place); he ascended the ladder with a firm step, from thence admonished young people to beware of sin, and prayed for about three-quarters of an hour, in a manly voice, and very affecting manner; he confessed, after he was sentenced, the justice of his punishment, and owned that he had stolen 60*l.*, a long time ago, from a person in his neighbourhood, for which offence another man had been suspected of being guilty, although there was not sufficient proof to commit him to prison; and he signed a letter to inform the man, who lost the money, that he himself, and no one else, was the guilty offender. He also confessed of his having, at different times, stolen four horses from the county of Cardigan, but he would not say from whom he stole them. All this time he was in the habit of residing principally in London, and his reason for coming into the county of Cardigan to steal was, because a fortuneteller had shown him, in a looking-glass, the church where he would be buried at, which had a particular sort of spire; consequently he travelled throughout the whole county of Cardigan, and looked at every church in that county, and finding there was not one that answered the description given him in the said looking-glass by the fortuneteller, he made up his mind that he could steal anything from Cardiganshire without dying for it, or without being convicted and dying for his crimes.

"After his conviction he made *three* desperate attempts to escape from the prison, but failed

in all his plans; after that he seemed to be very penitent and resigned, and declared he had been guilty of all manner of crimes, except murder; when he left London last he said that he left a woman there pregnant by him; he told me that his motto was, '*a short life and a merry one.*' He particularly warned young people from the gallows not to listen to fortune-tellers, because they tell no truth.

"2. And on the 8th day of April 1822, Thomas Price and John Evans, both of Pontrhyd-fendigaid, in this county, were hanged for *murder;* they were convicted principally by circumstantial evidence; they confessed the justice of their sentence, and appeared penitent of their sins."

There has not been *one* executed within the county of Cardigan since the year 1822, but several have been transported during that period.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has been in office since 1825; his son now assists him. One or the other visits twice a-week, sometimes more frequently. The prison is not damp in winter. The cases of illness are not numerous. Typhus fever was formerly not uncommon, but it is not seen now, because the whole prison is better regulated. A case of ague occurred about three years ago. No malignant cholera was witnessed either here or in the town. A few of the inmates were attacked with slight influenza during the last spring. Not above two or three cases of itch have made their appearance here since the first appointment of the surgeon in 1825. Syphilitic disorders are rare, and when they do occur it is principally among the sailors. Rheumatism is not unfrequent; simple fever and colds are occasionally seen. In 1836 no acute cases whatever happened here. The prisoners have been occasionally removed from the tread-wheel labour on the ground of indigestion. Two women have been delivered here since 1826, both of whom survived, and their children also. The surgeon receives no extra remuneration for attending such cases, nor for his medical services to debtors.

Cases of sickness in the year, 8; from Michaelmas 1836 to Michaelmas 1837.
Greatest number of sick at one time, 3.
Deaths, 4; since 1826.
One was an old man, who died of debility.
One was an old woman, died of the same.
One man died of suffocation.
One of consumption.
No death occurred between Michaelmas 1836 and Michaelmas 1837.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Number of prisoners at the date of my visit, 7th August 1837:—

Male debtors	7
Male prisoners untried . .	0
,, convicted . .	3
Females	0
Total	10

No. II.—Average. Greatest Number of Prisoners from 1st January 1837 to 7th August 1837:—19, (including debtors).

Seven was the largest number at one time, exclusive of debtors.

The greatest number of women here at the same time, during the above period, has been two.

No female debtors have been admitted since the 1st of January.

The number of inmates appears to have rather decreased of late years.

	Males.	Females.
The greatest number of prisoners at any one time, in the course of the year ending at Michaelmas 1836	7	2
Debtors	16	..

No. III.—NUMBER and DESCRIPTION of PRISONERS admitted into the GAOL and HOUSE of CORRECTION for the Year ending Michaelmas 1836.

No. A.—Prisoners for trial or tried at Assizes and Sessions in the course of the Year.

	ASSIZES.				SESSIONS.					
	Felons.		Misdemeanors.		Felons.		Misdemeanors.		Total.	
	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
No. of Prisoners before trial . .	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	1
,, convicted . . .	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1
,, acquitted at the bar	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..

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No. B.—Summary Convictions in the course of the Year:—

	Males.	Females.
By courts martials	..	..
Deserters awaiting a rout	..	..
Under the game laws	6	..
For assaults	1	..
Under the Bastardy Law	2	1
Under the Vagrant Act	2	..
Under the Malicious Trespass Act	..	..
Under the Larceny Act	..	..
Under the Metropolitan or Local Police Act	..	..
Other summary convictions	7	..
Not included in preceding classes	..	..
Total	18	1

No. C.—Debtors in the course of the Year:—

	Males.	Females.
On mesne process	4	..
In execution	18	1
Total	22	1

No. D.—Total Number of Prisoners confined in this Prison in the course of the Year:—

	Males.	Females.
In custody at the commencement of the year	2	1
Received under commitments, and who have not been in custody of others	20	3
Total	22	4

No. IV.—Age of Prisoners.

Ages of Prisoners comprised in Nos. A and B:—

	Males.	Females.
Under 12 years	..	..
12 years, and under 14	..	..
14 years, and under 17	..	..
17 years, and under 21	2	1
21 years, and under 30	5	1
30 years and upward	12	2
Total	19	4

No. V.—Statistics of Education.

State of Instruction of Prisoners, as above:—

	Males.	Females.
Can neither read nor write	4	1
Can read only	4	3
Can read or write, or both, imperfectly	10	..
Can read and write well	1	..
Total	19	4

No. VI.—Recommittals during the above period.

The number of Prisoners (except Debtors) who have been confined before, to this or to other Prisons:—

	Males.	Females.
Once	1	..
Twice	..	1
Thrice	..	..
Four times, or more	..	..

No. VII.—OFFICERS' SALARIES, FEES, EMOLUMENTS, AND ALLOWANCES.

Officers.	No. of each.	Salaries.	Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.	Total.	Nature of Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Governor	1	90 0 0	4 12 6	94 12 6	In fuel 3 10 0
Chaplain	1	40 0 0	..	40 0 0	Copies of Warrants 1 2 6
Matron	1	10 0 0	..	10 0 0	
Surgeon (including Medicines)	1	40 0 0	..	40 0 0	

No. VIII.—Inventory of Bedding and of Clothing for Males and Females:—

	Males.	Females.
Night-caps	..	..
Day-caps	..	..
Jackets	2	2
Waistcoats	..	..
Trowsers	2	..
Shirts	9	..
Stockings	..	2
Handkerchiefs	..	..
Shoes	..	1
Clogs	..	..
Gowns	..	..
Petticoats	..	2
Flannel petticoats	..	..
Shifts	..	4
Beds	8	4
Sheets	..	..
Rugs	7	1
Pillows	1	2
Towels	16	1
Blankets	20	4

No. IX.—Expenditure.

Total cost, per annum, under the following heads:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Total cost of prison diet	73	19	10½
Male and female clothing	4	14	11
Male and female extra allowance, by order of surgeon	0	0	0
Beer and spirits	0	0	0
Fuel	14	16	8
Soap	2	1	1
Candles	0	0	0
Washing	0	0	0
Cooking	0	0	0
Stationery	1	4	6
Books	0	7	0
Furniture	0	0	0
Officers' salaries, fees, and emoluments	184	12	6
Removal of prisoners to take their trials at assizes and sessions	4	4	8
Removal of transported convicts	0	0	0
Sundries, not mentioned	9	19	5
Total expenses of the prison for the year	£296	0	7½
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison, per annum	1	8	0
Prison diet per head, per annum	6	7	10
Prison clothing and bedding per head, per annum	1	3	7½

No. X.—Receipts:—

Profits arising from work done in the prison	0	0	0
Amount received for subsistence of military prisoners	0	0	0
Amount received for support of prisoners under contract	68	16	3
Other receipts	5	3	7½
	£73	19	10½

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No. XII.—ANALYSIS OF THE DIETARY.

		Bread.	Meat when cooked.	Potatoes.	Soup.*	Gruel.
		ozs.	ozs.	lbs.	pints.	pints.
Sunday	Men	24	4	1	1	2
	Women	24	4	1	1	2
	Boys	..	..	..	..	..
Monday	Men	24	4	1	1	2
	Women	24	4	1	1	2
	Boys	..	..	..	..	..
Tuesday	Men	24	..	..	..	3
	Women	24	..	..	..	3
	Boys	..	..	..	..	..
Wednesday	Men	24	4	1	1	2
	Women	24	4	1	1	2
	Boys	..	..	..	..	..
Thursday	Men	24	..	..	..	3
	Women	24	..	..	..	3
	Boys	..	..	..	..	..
Friday	Men	24	4	1	1	2
	Women	24	4	1	1	2
	Boys	..	..	..	..	..
Saturday	Men	24	..	..	..	3
	Women	24	..	..	..	3
	Boys	..	..	..	..	..

* The soup contains 1 pint of liquor to 4 ozs. meat.

No. XIII.—Registration and Account Books :—

Surgeon's Journal.
Chaplain's.
Prison Register (kept in manuscript, with no printed headed columns).
Debtors' Register.
Disbursements' Book.
Gaol Occurrence Book.

No. XIV.—SCALE OF TREAD-WHEEL LABOUR, as delivered by the Gaoler.

Months Employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheel will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of Wheel per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day, as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheel per Day.	The Daily Amounts to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with Precision.	Application of its Power.
			Inches.							
January	7	10	8½	2	1—3	9,520	560	560	Time by recording the revolutions by the striking of a bell. Ten minutes on, and five minutes off.	None, except turning a regulator.
February	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
March	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
April	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
May	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
June	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
July	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
August	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
September	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
October	8	10	8½	2	1—3	10,880	640	640		
November	7	10	8½	2	1—3	9,520	560	560		
December	7	10	8½	2	1—3	9,520	560	560		

Suggestions towards Improvement.

The greatest improvement here would be to appoint—

1. *A turnkey,* in order to enforce silence and to assist in the general discipline.
2. To appropriate as a sick cell for male prisoners the first cell in female debtors' ward, and as a sick cell for the females that cell in the female house of correction which has a fire-place.

To fit up both these cells with matting, night-stools, table, and sheets, and never to use them for any other purpose.

3. To place glass windows, capable of being opened, in all the passage windows.
4. To place a large revolving chevaux-de-frise on the top of all the walls, or to erect a boundary wall where it is practicable.
5. To procure more bedsteads, and to have only one *single* bedstead in every cell.
6. To make a shed in one of the yards under which to break stones.
7. To appoint a female prisoner to dress all the prisoners' food in the wash-house (which would also serve as a day-room for the females when required); if no female prisoner is here the matron would dress all the food, also in the wash-house.
8. To make a cess-pool, or to surround the present hole with a low wall and a cover.
9. To abolish tread-wheel labour as far as regards the females.
10. To put up a small curtain in front of the female part in the chapel.

11. To make printed rules, of which the rules recommended by the Lords' Committee and by the Home Secretary would form the basis.

12. If imprisonment for debt continues, to appropriate one of the female wards for male prisoners, who stand in more need of such accommodation.

13. Todisp ose of the wooden bath which is out of repair, and to procure a new one of metal.

14. To make the convicts' dress party-coloured.

15. To have a better prison register, with printed headings and ruled columns.

16. To have open iron gates at the top of three of the staircases, which would prevent the prisoners from entering the cells by day.

17. To fit up No. 3 of the male house of correction as a sleeping cell.

18. To make a chimney in each ward of the male gaol, in order to warm a day-room in winter, or else to introduce heated air into the cells. Some mode of obtaining warmth in winter is necessary, although it is very desirable that the prisoners should not make use of the day-rooms more than is requisite for the purpose of warming themselves in winter, or of sheltering themselves in wet weather.

ABERYSTWITH.—County Lock-up House and Town Gaol.

Aberystwith. County Lock-up House and Town Gaol.

This small building stands in the street, with houses on each side. It is at present very insecure. There are four rooms or cells, of which one contains two double beds, with a fire-place and grate, and a glazed window made to open. Another room, of large size, has also a fire-place, grate, and glazed window made to open. A third room is above stairs; it is spacious, and has a fire-place but no grate, and its glazed window, opening on the roof, does not open; this room has no bedstead, and does not appear to have been lately used for prisoners, but rather as a store-room. There is also a detached cell in the yard of a smaller size, with a large double bedstead covered with straw. I found only one prisoner in a large room or cell adjoining the street-door; in this door is a slide, which was moveable at pleasure. The keeper declared that the padlock which fastened the slide was only accidentally absent, but I have no doubt but that the same facility frequently occurs. The doors throughout are not strong enough. The whole building is out of repair, and in the first instance not properly furnished. The walls of the cells are rough hewn within, only white-washed, and very damp in winter. There are two small yards.

Debtors are not received here.

The male prisoner slept for 11 or 12 nights in the same bed with another man; and in the other double bed in his room two men have also occasionally slept together.

I found on two visits the wife of a prisoner in the cell with her husband alone.

Fruit is sometimes exposed for sale at the door of the prison opening into the street, but the salary is so small that this cannot be wondered at. Any letter or article may, I believe, be easily introduced at present. The gaoler receives 10 guineas yearly, and no coals. There is no security, owing to the weakness of the doors and windows.

At the time of my last visit, October 16, 1837, one man and one woman were in confinement. The man has been there about two months. There is only enough bedding for three double beds. There is no store of clothes whatever. There are no written nor printed rules.

Prisoners sentenced to hard labour at quarter sessions are sent to Cardigan gaol, in general. A few lighter cases remain here, which have been sent by summary convictions.

If any one is ill the surgeon of the union is sent for. There is no chaplain. Three Testaments, two in Welsh and one in English, were presented to the gaol about two years ago.

The magistrates propose to pension off the present old gaoler, and to appoint the expected serjeant of police to be the new gaoler, making the prison a station-house for the police, as well as a gaol and lock-up house.

Escapes.—The keeper has had only one since he has been here; the person was not retaken; other attempts have been made.

Diet.—The prisoners receive 1½ lb. of seconds bread daily, and 4 oz. of oatmeal daily to make gruel.

The gaoler is at present paid 5½*d.* a-day for the maintenance of each prisoner; it used to be 4½*d.* a-day, but the price of meal is now raised. Salt is given freely. Soap is allowed, and coals are also supplied for the use of the prisoners.

Books of Accounts, &c.—One register.

Labour.—Breaking stones in the yard is the labour. Some prisoners are allowed to work at their trade if they wish it.

The number of prisoners committed in 1833 was 22
1834 17
1835 14
1836 13 (One woman was twice committed.)

From 1st January 1837 to 22d September, five prisoners have been committed; and four night-charges, three men and one woman. The greatest number at one time, since the 1st of January 1837, has been six men and one woman. The greatest number at one time during 1836 was five or six. Ten years ago there were so many as 27 here at once, but they only remained two or three days.

When a woman has been brought to bed here, the keeper has charged 5*s.* for his daughter's attendance. Two women were brought to bed here about four or five years ago.

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Cardiganshire.

Aberystwith. County Lock-up House and Town Gaol.

The keeper has been here 34 years; he has sometimes gone out to work as a gardener; is aged 73.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To increase the gaoler's salary.

2. To give a small salary to the matron, with directions that she alone shall have any communication with the female prisoners. The matron also should prepare the gruel for the prisoners during summer, and should wash for them when no female prisoner is in the house.

3. To introduce a sufficient number of iron bedsteads and a sufficient quantity of bedding, in order that every prisoner, of either sex, may occupy a single bed.

4. To confine the women on the left-hand side; to place the men on the right-hand side: to build three new cells in the male yard; in which case the large room would only be used as a day-room, unless when the prison was crowded.

5. To prohibit the use of tobacco.

6. To appropriate one cell in each yard for night charges. One such already exists in the left-hand yard, but it requires to be strengthened.

7. To abolish the use of sheets, except for the sick.

8. To reserve the upper room on the left-hand side as a room for the sick.

9. To supply some clothing (to be kept in store for the destitute) and some combs.

10. To make new rules, including an injunction to observe silence, and fixed restrictions as to visits and letters, and as to the non-admission of articles from without. These rules should be printed, and hung up in each day-room.

11. The doors throughout are not strong enough.

12. To wall up the door of the cell adjoining the street.

13. A window towards the street wants repair and greater strength.

14. There should be an inner iron gate within the street door for the sake of security.

15. The railings on each side of the yards should be filled up, so that the prisoners in the opposite yards may not see each other.

16. No food nor drink should be allowed for convicted prisoners, except the prison diet, unless by order of the surgeon.

17. The keeper should not exercise any business which may call him away from the prison, nor should any articles be sold at the door of the prison; but in this case his salary should be raised.

18. That no fire be kept up in the summer in the male prisoner's day-room; and only in the female prisoner's room when it is required for washing.

19. That no visitor be left alone with a prisoner, not even his nearest relations; but that the gaoler or matron be always present.

20. In the proposed sick-room to place a grate, and to make the window to open.

These recommendations were directed to be carried into effect at the Michaelmas Sessions 1837 by the county magistrates.

Carmarthenshire.

CARMARTHENSHIRE.

Expenses incurred by the County on Prisoners and Prisons, from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1836 to Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1837, inclusive.

	£.	s.	d.
By cash paid the salaries of the officers of the court	649	18	6
By ditto paid towards the gaol and house of correction . . .	686	3	0
By ditto paid towards the town-hall at Carmarthen	41	12	5
By ditto paid towards the town-hall at Llandilo	88	8	9
By ditto paid towards Llangadock town-hall and lock-up house .	2	0	0
By ditto paid towards the Llandovery town-hall and lock-up house	8	8	0
By ditto paid towards the Llanelly lock-up house	100	0	0
By ditto paid for the prosecution of felons, holding coroners' inquests, &c.	827	19	1

CARMARTHEN.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Carmarthen. County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—This gaol is part of the old castle, and is not very secure. It has no boundary wall, and is not overlooked by any other building. It is extremely spacious, and contains more cells than prisoners. The male cells are well sized either for day or night cells, and several of them are sufficiently large for a prisoner to remain in both all day and night, provided that he has suitable exercise in the yard, or tread-wheel labour. They are light and also well ventilated. At present the female prisoners are confined in close small cells, which adjoin the gaoler's house; there are only four such. Their yard is small, immediately communicating with the gaoler's house and family. There is no privy in their yard; they are consequently obliged to go to the privy which is in the gaoler's yard. They have no infirmary nor dark cell. They live at present as though they were in a private house, being able to hear all that passes, and living in little seclusion. There is one large ward, which was formerly reserved for the occupation of lunatic prisoners, but it is now entirely disused. The windows

of the prison are not all in good repair. There is no infirmary for the sick male prisoners; but a cell in the lunatics' ward is sometimes used for that purpose. Some parts of the gaol are insecure.

Management.—The keeper receives 200*l.* per annum. He has coals and candles in addition. Out of this sum he maintains the matron and turnkey. He had lately his two adult sons employed under him as turnkeys; but one of them has quitted the business about a week ago; so that he has now one adult son employed as turnkey, and another son, of 14 years, who assists in locking-up, &c. (See General Statistics, No. XV.)

This prison is moderately clean. The inspection is bad; the gaoler's house is detached from all the gaol, excepting the female ward and tread-wheel, and he possesses but scanty means of watching the prisoners. Tobacco is only allowed to be used by the untried. The prisoners associate freely in their respective wards. Letters and visits are left to the discretion of the gaoler, except so far as regards the borough prisoners, who are only permitted to receive visitors once a-week, on Friday. During visits the gaoler, or one of his sons, has always been present. The gaoler reads all letters which enter or go out. Silence had not hitherto been enjoined. The discipline of this prison has been hitherto rather lax; but I believe that this circumstance has not arisen from any want of attention on the part of the keeper. For further particulars illustrative of the management, I must refer to the Suggestions towards Improvement.

Diet.—The convicted in the house of correction are fed by the gaoler, who dresses their food in his own kitchen. They accordingly have no fire during the summer in their day-rooms. Their diet consists of 1 lb. of bread, of the second quality daily; ¾ lb. of meat twice in the week; the days on which they have no meat they have 2 ozs. of cheese; on five days of the week they have 1 lb. of potatoes twice a-day; and they receive 3 half-pints of oatmeal gruel a-day. All the other prisoners receive 2*s.* weekly, and have fires in the day-rooms. If a debtor is destitute, he also receives 2*s.* a-week like the rest.

The convicted prisoners have a party-coloured dress. The untried receive no clothing, unless destitute.

Labour.—The hard labour is supplied by the tread-wheel. This machine fronts the passage which leads to the gaoler's house; those who are working on it are consequently too much exposed to public view, and hear and see too much of what is passing. There is no other employment worthy of notice.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs Divine service twice on Sundays, and delivers a sermon; he sometimes reads the service in English and sometimes in Welsh. He attends at the prison every day, when he reads extracts from the Liturgy. He goes into the prisoners' wards and catechizes them; he also takes the prisoners into a cell, where he talks to them in private. He has never administered the sacrament, except when an execution took place. Besides his appointment as chaplain to the prison, he holds a living. He is allowed to order such books as may be required for the prisoners. There is no committee of ladies at this gaol.

In the day-room of the tread-wheel felons, I found the "Devil on two Sticks" in English; it was immediately removed.

Suicide.—There has been one attempt to commit suicide recently by means of a razor.

Escapes.—During 12 years there have been two escapes; both of the fugitives were retaken, but one not till after a lapse of three years.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has been 18 years attached to the county gaol. He usually visits the prisoners every other day, unless there are any of them ailing; he then comes as often as he thinks it necessary. He is desirous to have apartments in which the sick prisoners might be placed. There was no influenza here, nor was there any malignant cholera either here or in the town. The complaint which is most frequent here is rupture; itch and venereal disorders follow next, but are rare; other diseases are seldom seen. He considers the gaol to be very healthy. During the last 12 months two deaths have occurred. Since 1st January 1837 one woman has lain in here; both she and the child lived. There is no lunatic in confinement here at present.

From Michaelmas	1828	to Michaelmas	1829	there was	1	death.
„	1829	„	1830	„	1	„
„	1830	„	1831	„	1	„

From Michaelmas	1828	to Michaelmas	1829	there were	12	cases of sickness.
„	1829	„	1830	„	12	„
„	1830	„	1831	„	18	„

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To establish a fixed diet, consisting of 1½ lb. of good wheaten bread, 1 lb. of potatoes or of mixed vegetables, and 3 pints of gruel (to be given warm when required), and a supply of salt, daily. For the prisoners on hard labour ½ lb. of potatoes in addition daily. The food introduced from without for the use of the untried prisoners should be brought in ready cooked, so as to obviate the necessity of keeping up fires in the day-rooms in summer.
2. To turn the tread-wheel on the other side.
3. To remove female prisoners to the lunatic ward, and to prepare there an infirmary room and a dark cell for their use.
4. To convert the female debtors' ward, which is seldom occupied, into an infirmary for male prisoners, as a temporary arrangement, until the subject of imprisonment for debt is

decided. If a female debtor should arrive in the mean time, she might be placed in the present female ward adjoining.

5. To abolish, finally, the use of the underground cells, which, indeed, of late years have been rarely employed.
6. To prohibit the use of tobacco to all except debtors.
7. Silence to be enjoined.
8. To place a curtain before the female prisoners in the chapel.
9. To form a pew in the chapel for the use of the keeper and his family.
10. To discontinue the use of sheets, except for the sick.
11. To make fixed and strict rules regarding letters and visits.
12. To prepare a dark cell for male prisoners.
13. To arrange a separate kitchen for the preparation of the prison diet.

These, and some other points of less importance, I had the benefit of discussing in company with some of the visiting magistrates, as well as of considering with them the proper localities in detail. To almost all these suggestions they immediately assented, and reserved the remainder for future deliberation.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Progress of commitments during successive years:—

From Michaelmas 1828 to Michaelmas 1829					82
1829 „ 1830					139
1830 „ 1831					139
1831 „ 1832					99
1832 „ 1833					96
Prisoners committed from 1833 to 1834.—Males			75		
Females			11		
Debtors „ „ Males			20		
Females			6		
Total.—Prisoners					86
Debtors					26
Prisoners committed from 1834 to 1835.—Males			92		
Females			13		
Debtors „ „ Males			20		
Females			3		
Total.—Prisoners					105
Debtors					23
Prisoners committed from 1835 to 1836.—Males			61		
Females			13		
Debtors „ „ Males			30		
Females			0		
Total.—Prisoners					74
Debtors					30

We derive from the above a gratifying result in the considerable diminution of admissions, which the gaoler ascribes to the introduction of the tread-wheel.

No. II.—List of Prisoners in Carmarthen County Gaol at the date of my visit, 4th September 1837:—

In the House of Correction.—Convicted felons	5	
Misdemeanors	0	
Borough prisoners	2	
	—	7
In the Gaol.—Untried prisoners	4	
Debtors	8	
	—	12
Total		19

No. III.—Ages of Prisoners for Assizes and Quarter Sessions, from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836:—

	Males.	Females.
Under 12 years	..	..
12 years, and under 14	2	..
14 „ 17	3	2
17 „ 21	6	1
21 „ 30	28	6
30 years, and upwards	22	6
Total	61	15

No. IV.—State of Instruction of Prisoners for Assizes and Quarter Sessions, from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836:—

	Male.	Female.
Can neither read nor write	7	4
Can read only	9	1
Can read or write, or both, imperfectly	20	5
Can read and write well	25	5
Total	61	15

No. V.—Cases of Sickness and Death within the Year:—

	Male.	Female.
Slight indisposition	5	1
Infirmary cases	..	..
Greatest number of sick at one time	1	1
Death (a debtor)	1	..
Total	7	2

No. VI.—The greatest Number of Prisoners at any one time in the course of the Year:—
Males, 30. Females, 2.

No. VII.—The Number of Prisoners, except Debtors, who have been committed before, to this or to other Prisons:—

	Male.	Female.
Once	1	..
Twice	3	..
Thrice	3	..
Four times, or more	..	..
Total	7	..

No. VIII.—Mode in which Prisoners have been employed, from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836:—

	Male.	Female.
Hard labour, tread-mill, and beating hemp	56	10

No. IX.—Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to Solitary Confinement:—
One female.

No. X.—Number of Punishments for Offences within the Prison, in the course of the Year:—

	Tried.		Untried.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Irons	..	..	..	..
Whipping	..	..	..	..
Dark cells	..	..	..	..
Solitary cells	2	..	..	..
Stoppage of diet	2	..	..	..
Other punishments	..	..	..	..
Total	4	..	..	..

No. XI.—Clothing and Bedding Table:—

Number of Articles.	Male.	Female.
Night-caps	20	12
Day ditto	..	12
Jackets	24	9
Waistcoats	..	..
Trousers	24	..
Shirts	24	..
Stockings	24	..
Handkerchiefs (had when requested)	..	12
Shoes	..	..
Clogs	12	6
Gowns	..	12
Petticoats	..	12
Flannel ditto	..	6
Shifts	..	16
Beds	30	8
Rugs	24	12

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Carmarthenshire.

Carmarthen. County Gaol and House of Correction.

	Male.	Female.
Sheets	50	22
Pillow-cases	30	6
Towels	30	6
Blankets	30	4

No. XII.—Total cost, per annum, under the following heads:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total cost of prison diet	90	12	6
Male and female clothing	20	0	0
Bedding	30	0	0
Fuel	52	0	0
Soap	12	0	0
Candles	8	0	0
Washing	4	0	0
Stationery	10	0	0
Books	4	0	0
Furniture	3	0	0
Officers' salaries	200	0	0
Fees and emoluments	2	10	0
Removal of prisoners to take trials at assizes and sessions	4	0	0
Removing each transported convict	15	0	0
Sundries, not mentioned	27	17	5
Total expenses for prison for year	482	19	11
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison, per annum, including re-slating part of the gaol	110	3	1
Prison diet, per head per annum	10	12	11
Prison clothing, per head per annum	2	10	0

The indigent debtors and prisoners in the common gaol are paid 2*s.* weekly each by the treasurer of the county, as county allowance; and the amount, within the last year, was 91*l.* 11*s.*; and a salary of 10*l.* yearly is allowed the treasurer, by the county, for paying such prisoners, which is included in the sundries.

No. XIII.—ANALYSIS of the DIETARY.

	Bread.	Meat when cooked.	Potatoes.	Cheese.	Soup.*	Gruel.
	ozs.	ozs.	lbs.	ozs.	pints.	pints.
Sunday . Men, Women, Boys	24	12	1½	..	..	3
Monday . Men, Women, Boys	24	..	..	..	2	3
Tuesday . Men, Women, Boys	24	..	..	3	2	3
Wednesday Men, Women, Boys	24	..	..	..	2	3
Thursday . Men, Women, Boys	24	12	1½	..	..	3
Friday . Men, Women, Boys	24	..	..	3	2	3
Saturday . Men, Women, Boys	24	..	..	..	2	..

* Prisoners in the House of Correction are supplied with the same diet. On Mondays and Fridays they have meat soup, and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, vegetable soup.

No. XIV.—Scale of Tread-wheel Labour, as delivered by the Gaoler.

Months Employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at a time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day, as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheel per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with Precision.	Application of its Power.
			Inches.	Feet.						
January .	7	8	7½	30	One half.	12,600	840	6·300	From a minute survey of the velocity of the wheel.	Nothing more than to operate as a punishment.
February .	7½	..	..	..	..	13,500	900	6·750		
March . .	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	1,200	9·000		
April . .	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	1,200	9·000		
May . .	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	1,200	9·000		
June . .	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	1,200	9·000		
July . .	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	1,200	9·000		
August .	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	1,200	9·000		
September.	10	..	..	..	..	18,000	1,200	9·000		
October .	9	..	..	..	..	16,200	1,080	8·100		
November .	7½	..	..	..	..	13,500	900	6·750		
December .	7	..	..	..	..	12,600	840	6·300		

III.

Southern and Western District.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Carmarthenshire.

Carmarthen. County Gaol and House of Correction.

No. XV.—Officers' Salaries, Fees, Emoluments, Allowances, &c. &c.

Officers.	Number of each.	Salaries.	Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.	Total.	Nature of Fees, Emoluments and Allowances.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
Governor and Gaoler. . . .	1	200 0 0	2 10 0	202 10 0	For copies of writs and gaoler's certificates 3*s.* 6*d.* For taking debtors before Commissioner 1*s.* 6*d.* each.
Chaplain	1	80 0 0	. .	80 0 0	
Matron	1	10 0 0	. .	10 0 0	
Surgeon and Medicines . . .	1	60 0 0	. .	60 0 0	
*Chief Turnkey	1	35 0 0	. .	35 0 0	
Turnkey (male)	1	26 0 0	. .	26 0 0	
Total . . .	6	411 0 0	2 10 0	413 10 0	

* The gaoler pays the matron and turnkeys their salaries out of the sum of £200 allowed him as gaoler and governor of the House of Correction, which are within the same building, by the county. He also pays, annually, about £9, for preparing the bail bond required by the sheriff.

No. XVI.—Receipts:—

	£.	s.	d.
Profits arising from productive labour done in the prison	1	0	0
Amount of fines paid by prisoners, applicable to the county rate	25	10	4½
Total . .	26	10	4½

Memorandum.—The following statement was handed to me by the keeper, in reference to the evidence of a prisoner examined before the Committee of the House of Lords:—

"I beg leave to call your attention to a statement (contained in page 25 of the Appendix to the First Report from the Select Committee of the House of Lords, appointed to inquire into the present State of the Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales, published in 1835,) made by David Jones, a prisoner, convicted of *sacrilege*. There is much in that statement which is perfectly untrue; but the object of my communication is to point out to you the extreme caution which is necessary in taking and acting upon the evidence of convicted prisoners, as also the extent of the reliance that is to be placed upon it. The prisoner winds up his story about this gaol by stating that he preferred, infinitely, the silence and discipline observed in the Penitentiary to the unrestrained communication and license permitted at Carmarthen Gaol, as he was positive it would ruin any young man. Now I beg to state to you that, in a very short period after he was released from the Penitentiary, he was convicted, at the Midsummer quarter sessions for the county of Brecon, in 1836, of stealing a watch, and sentenced to 14 years' transportation; so that, upon his testimony, I submit, no reliance can be placed."

No. XVII.—Disbursements of the Carmarthen County Gaol, from Michaelmas Quarter Sessions 1836 to Midsummer Quarter Sessions 1837, both inclusive.

Michaelmas Sessions 1836.	£.	s.	d.
Mason, per contract	14	1	4
Locksmith, per contract	4	13	0
Chaplain's quarterly salary	20	0	0
Surgeon's quarterly salary	15	0	0
Governor, matron, and officer's quarterly salary	50	0	0
Disbursements for gaol and house of correction	15	16	9
Prisoners and debtors extra allowance	4	0	0
Maintenance of prisoners in the house of correction	51	9	0
	175	0	1
Epiphany Sessions 1837.			
Blankets, &c.	27	4	11
Disbursements and clothing	34	13	1
Chaplain's salary	20	0	0
Surgeon's salary	15	0	0
Governor, matron, and officer's salary	50	0	0
Maintenance of prisoners in common gaol	17	2	0
	173	19	0
Easter Sessions 1837.			
Chaplain's salary	20	0	0
Surgeon's salary	15	0	0
Governor, matron, and officer's salary	50	0	0
Coals, per contract	52	0	0
Disbursements in gaol and house of correction	22	16	0
Maintenance of prisoners in the house of correction	41	12	2
Prisoners in common gaol	20	14	0
	222	2	2

Midsummer Sessions 1837.	£.	s.	d.
Chaplain's salary	20	0	0
Surgeon's salary	15	0	0
Governor, matron, and officer's salary	50	0	0
Disbursements, &c.	28	12	9
Prisoners maintenance in common gaol	11	8	0
	125	0	9

Several small bills for masons, smiths, and other artizans' work, are included under the head of disbursements.

Removing Convicts, per Contract.	£.	s.	d.
Michaelmas Sessions 1836	15	0	0
Epiphany 1837, per contract	15	0	0
Easter 1837, per contract	15	0	0
	45	0	0
Carpenter's bill for work done at the county gaol and shire hall in the above period	33	4	3
Ironmonger's ditto	18	0	10
	51	5	1

III.

Southern and Western District.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Carmarthenshire.

Carmarthen. Town Gaol and Debtors' Prison.

CARMARTHEN.—Town Gaol and Debtors' Prison.

Construction.—This prison does not possess sufficient room and accommodation. The following is the number of yards:—

For Male debtors	1
Female do.	1
Male criminals	1
Female do.	1

The following is the number of cells:—

For Male debtors	4
Female do.	2
Male criminals	2
Female do.	1

There is one day-room for the male criminals, and one day-room for the female criminals. The prison is not in good order; it is dark, ill ventilated, and crowded. The privies are tolerable, and the water is moderately well supplied. A lock-up house, containing two cells, is connected with the gaol.

Management.—The borough justices have very recently contracted with the county justices for the maintenance of prisoners within the county gaol; but those were prisoners convicted before the local magistrates of the borough; and I have not known of any instance of borough prisoners, after conviction before the judges of assize or the recorder, who have been maintained by contract in the county gaol.

The government of this prison seems to be divided, undefined, and uncertain. The town council appoints the chaplain and surgeon, and defrays repairs and salaries and the maintenance of the prisoners, while the sheriff appoints the gaoler. There are no visiting magistrates whatever. The present keeper was discharged from office formerly, but has been restored this year. The debtors behave tolerably well: the other prisoners usually conduct themselves quietly. The date of the last printed rules is 1815. The prison is dirty, and the discipline extremely lax. The gaoler is 55 years of age: he appears to receive considerable assistance from his daughter, an intelligent and active person. Tobacco is allowed. Silence is not enjoined; but the chief noise is made by the debtors, who appear to be quite at their ease. I could not procure the rules. Letters are examined by the gaoler. Visits are made without any apparent restriction other than the presence of the gaoler and his daughter.

Diet.—The gaoler receives 2*s.* weekly for each prisoner, and provides their food out of this sum. The poor debtors are supported by their parishes, and receive 2*s.* a-week, which are expended for them by the gaoler.

Labour.—No labour is practised here; but breaking stones might be introduced.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chapel is a very small room, which is used as a bedroom for debtors, and is quite unfit for its destination. The chaplain performs Divine service on Sundays. He only comes hither on Sundays, and lives some miles off.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon visits or sends his assistant to visit the prison occasionally, and whenever he is sent for. He has been surgeon about 25 years to this prison; he is also surgeon to the county gaol. He considers the prison healthy, though it is crowded; and he has never noticed any disease to have arisen from circumstances connected with its locality. There is no typhus fever nor ague: venereal complaints and the itch are rare among the prisoners. During the time he has been the surgeon there, he does not recollect that a single death has occurred. There is no infirmary for the sick, nor is there any bath.

Registration.

Register for debtors and criminals.
Register of expenses.
The surgeon keeps a journal at his own house.
There is no chaplain's journal.

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.
Gaoler	20	0	0
Chaplain	10	0	0
Surgeon	10	0	0

The matron has no salary. There is no allowance made for washing, nor is there a wash-house. Salt is not provided. The gaoler sends in his bills for soap and candles. The gaoler, at present, derives profit only from two rooms. The furniture in these two rooms belongs to him, and he receives for one of them 2*s.* a-week, and for the other 3*s.* 6*d.* a-week, from debtors who are desirous of good accommodation. He declares that he has no other fees nor emoluments whatever, except what we have above stated.

Number of prisoners at the date of my visit, 4th September 1837.

Male debtors	11
Female debtor	1
Male criminals	3
Female criminals	2

Number of Prisoners confined in the Borough Gaol at Carmarthen, from the 1st January 1836 to the 5th September 1837, Males and Females.

Debtors	67
Prisoners	46

Average number of prisoners, about 10, including debtors.

Expenditure.—On 22d December 1836, a return was made of the expenses for the previous year (1836) of 65*l.* including the gaoler's salary, but not the other salaries.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

It would not be expedient to alter the building at present, until the subject of imprisonment for debt is decided; because, if imprisonment for debt should cease, the building will be large enough for all its purposes, which is not the case at present.

1. To frame new rules, to print them, and to hang them up in various parts of the prison.
2. Amongst the new rules, to abolish the use of tobacco (except as regards the debtors), to enjoin silence, and to make strict regulations with respect to visits and letters.
3. To abolish the money allowance for food, and to establish in place of it a fixed diet of 1½ lb. of bread daily, 3 pints of oatmeal-gruel daily, 1 lb. of potatoes, or mixed vegetables daily, and a liberal allowance of salt.
4. To increase the gaoler's salary; this recommendation I make with great reluctance, but (particularly when considering that he receives no coals nor candles) it is too small for the importance and responsibility of the office.
5. To give a small annual salary to the matron, who appears at present to wash for the prisoners, without receiving any compensation, either for that, or for her other toil.
6. To introduce the breaking of stones for prisoners who are sent hither for hard labour, if any such are committed.
7. To appoint visitors, who may occasionally examine the gaol, and enter their remarks in a journal.
8. To keep in view the necessity of making a chapel, and of establishing an infirmary-room for men, and an infirmary-room for women. If imprisonment for debt should cease, these are two of the most necessary improvements, which may be immediately carried into effect, at a small expense.
9. To erect a large revolving chevaux-de-frise on the walls of the prison.
10. To distribute a better supply of religious and moral books.

CARNARVONSHIRE.

CARNARVON.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—This prison is situated in a public street, with houses on each side and opposite. It is extremely small, inconvenient, and insecure, and is totally unfit for the purpose of a county gaol. There are at present four yards, which are appropriated; for the females, one; for the debtors, one; for the untried and convicted male prisoners, one; for the infirmary, one. This last yard is not used at present. I have recommended it to be occupied by the untried prisoners, in order to separate them from the convicted. The infirmary will make four good cells and a day-room. There is a room above the females' day-room, which will also make three or four cells.

There is no under-ground cell.

The number of debtors' rooms is 7.

The number of prisoners which the prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping cells is 6.

The number of prisoners which the prison is capable of containing, where more than one prisoner sleeps in one cell is 12.

Management.—The keeper has only recently entered his office; he was previously in the police; and I believe that he has accomplished some beneficial changes in point of neatness, arrangement, and discipline, during the few months that he has had the opportunity. Even at present this gaol is considerably below the ordinary standard of county gaols, and is, perhaps, the worst fitted for its object, as well as the least spacious of any in England and Wales. Before the present gaoler's time, the debtors paid for the use of their rooms; they now pay nothing, with the exception of one who voluntarily pays a trifle for cooking his food. When the present gaoler entered, he bought beds and bedding for the use of the master-debtors, and for this outlay he has received no remuneration whatever. He finds table-linen and washes the sheets, table-cloths, and towels, for the master debtors. Until January last, 1837, I believe that considerable disorder prevailed in this gaol, and that it was considered by no means an uncomfortable place. Tobacco is not allowed; silence has not yet been ordered, nor would it be possible to enforce it, without the assistance of a turnkey. The gaoler and his wife are the only superintendents at present. There is a lock-up house in another part of the town; it contains two cells, one of which has a privy. The constable keeps the key.

Registration and Account-books.—The surgeon's journal, which begins October 1836. The chaplain's, which commences January 1824, in which he writes the number of prisoners who are present, including the debtors. The visiting magistrates' book, beginning March 1837. The gaoler's memorandum-book, in which he notes offences, and inventory. The debtors' book. The criminals' register. There is no register of criminals extant here before 1837, nor any journal, except the surgeon's and chaplain's. There is an order-book, in which all that is wanted is ordered by the magistrates.

Diet.—Each prisoner has the sum of 2*s.* 4*d.* allowed him weekly for his maintenance. The money is paid to each by the gaoler; and their food is supplied to them by an old woman who comes there. The poor debtors receive 2*s.* a-week. All the prisoners, the convicted as well as the untried, may receive food from without.

Bedding.—The quantity of bedding allowed is two blankets, a rug, a mattress; and in the winter an under blanket. The poor debtors also have this allowance. The master-debtors have a bed, and some part of their bedding furnished them by the gaoler; some part of their bedding they find themselves.

Labour.—Hard labour is supplied by the tread-wheel. The tread-wheel has two divisions; it will hold 12 prisoners. No application is made of the power. The trochimeter belonging to the prison was absent; it had been borrowed by a gentleman. Stone-breaking is sometimes carried on here.

State of Education among the Prisoners.—Of the 24 criminals who had been admitted since the gaoler came into office, 9 could both read and write; 1 could only read and write in Welsh; 5 could read but not write; and 8 could neither read nor write.

Punishments.—Since the gaoler has been here, he has only been under the necessity of punishing two men, by locking them up in their cells for four hours; which produced a good effect.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain has been appointed to his office for 10 years; besides being chaplain, he has a perpetual curacy of 60*l.* a-year, which is six miles from Carnarvon; but his place of residence is only two miles off. He reads Divine service and preaches a sermon on Sunday evenings; he also performs the morning service on Wednesdays, but delivers no sermon. He occasionally visits the prisoners during the week, but has no fixed days for coming. The prisoners in general are extremely ignorant of their religious duties; they seldom know more than the name of God and of the Saviour, but he never recollects meeting with a prisoner who was unacquainted with the name of God. One prisoner he has known highly informed in his knowledge of the Scripture; but he had been admitted into the school at Bangor; but, usually, the prisoners have never been to a school. He finds the most effectual method to instruct them is by talking to them each in private, and not to have all the prisoners present at once. He administered the sacrament about a year ago to a debtor, which he has occasionally done to the debtors, but has never delivered it to a criminal; nor, indeed, has he ever been asked to administer it by a criminal. He does not recollect that he ever heard a criminal say, that he, at any time, had received the sacrament. The Divine service is sometimes performed in English, when there are two, three, or four English prisoners; but it is usually read in Welsh. The debtors, except those of the

higher classes, generally attend Divine service regularly. There is no schoolmaster; but the chaplain has frequently given instruction to the prisoners. Books for the use of the prisoners are well supplied: about one-half of the prisoners are strangers.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has been here 10 years. Since January 1837, one death has occurred,—a debtor. During the year 1833, there were five or six deaths from cholera; and in the year 1836, one man died, aged about 80 years. On an average, the number of deaths does not amount to two in the year. During the 10 years the surgeon has attended at the prison, there have not been six women who have lain in here. The most common complaint of which the prisoners suffer is catarrh, and during the year 1836, bowel complaints were common. Itch is frequent here. Sometimes there are a few cases of low remittent fever, when it is prevalent in the town. The surgeon has the power of ordering extra diet to the prisoners when he thinks it necessary.

Escapes.—There has been one escape in which the prisoner was not retaken. It was suspected that the late gaoler's family favoured his escape, as he was traced by tracks on the snow into their garden, which was next to the prison, having on the gaol clothes, and being heavily ironed: he has never since been heard of.

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.	
The gaoler is not a constable, he receives for his salary	150	0	0	with coals and candles.
The matron	20	0	0	
The chaplain	54	12	0	
The surgeon	40	0	0	(finds the medicines.)

Letters.—All the letters are read by the governor; none are allowed to go out.

Visits.—At present all visits from friends are allowed to be received, both by the tried and the untried.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Expenditure:—

The following account presents the sum of certain expenses of the county gaol and house of correction at Carnarvon, for one year, from 23d October 1836, to 20th October 1836, including the salaries of keeper and matron, but not those of the chaplain and surgeon, nor the food of the prisoners:—

	£.	s.	d.
First quarter	47	15	8
Second do.	57	3	10½
Third do.	48	9	9½
Fourth do.	65	7	9½
Total	218	17	1½

No. II.—Number and Description of Prisoners at the date of my visit, 22d August 1837:—

Total Number of Prisoners.		Total Number of Debtors.		Number of Misdemeanors.		Number of Felons.		Number of tried prisoners.		Number of untried prisoners.	
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
6	2	9	0	2	0	4	2	4	2	2	0

No. III.—Of the above, the Comparative Age was:—

Number of Prisoners above 17 years of age.		Number of Prisoners under 17 years of age.	
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
5	2	1	0

No. IV.—Number of Admissions:—

The present gaoler came into office 6th January 1837. His first entry is 25th January. Since then there have been admitted, up to 22d August 1837,

Men.	Women.	Debtors.
20	4	14

No. V.—Education:—

Of the 24 criminals, 9 could both read and write; 1 could read and write only in the Welsh language; 5 could read but not write; and 8 could neither read nor write.

No. VI.—Greatest and lowest Number of Inmates:—

The greatest number of prisoners during the year 1837 here at one time was 24.

The smallest number, including the debtors, was 14.

The greatest number of women here at one time was 5.

No. VII.—Stock of Bedsteads and Bedding as delivered by the Gaoler:—
Number of bedsteads that are fixed in cells, with bedding complete for criminals, six.
Number of iron bedsteads with bedding for criminals, one.
Number of iron bedsteads for debtors, nine.
Number of beds with bedding complete for debtors, five.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

Carnarvonshire. Carnarvon. County Gaol and House of Correction.

1. To convert the infirmary into a ward for the untried male prisoners, leaving one good cell, with a fireplace, to be used as a male infirmary. If the present infirmary ward is converted into a ward for the untried, it will be necessary to introduce a supply of water.

2. To establish a fixed prison diet, which may be prepared by a female prisoner in the small kitchen which stands detached; but a door must be made through the wall which separates it from the female yard, and the door which leads to the kitchen from the street should be walled up. This kitchen would also serve as a wash-house.

3. The diet might consist of 1½ lb. of bread daily, 1 lb. of potatoes or mixed vegetables daily, and 3 pints of oatmeal gruel daily, given them when desired. The supply of salt to be liberal. The above diet could be given to all the prisoners, except to such untried ones as wish to maintain themselves entirely.

The prisoners engaged in hard labour might receive an additional half pound of potatoes or of mixed vegetables daily.

4. To supply combs.

5. To supply shirts, shifts, stockings, caps, and aprons for the women, and flannel petticoats; and to provide towels for each ward.

6. To provide a bath.

7. To convert the long room above the female day-room into female cells.

8. To place a common curtain in the chapel in front of the female prisoners.

9. To engage a turnkey, without whose assistance a rigid discipline cannot be enforced here, nor can silence possibly be preserved. He might sleep in that room (adjoining the debtors') which overlooks the petty jury room; and, if married, he might have two rooms in the debtors' part.

10. To enjoin silence by rule, and to print new rules; among which it would be very essential to restrict visits and letters, according to the recommendation of the Lords' Committee and of the Home Secretary.

11. To provide a new supply of iron bedsteads, so that all may sleep in separate beds, and, whenever it is possible, in separate cells.

12. To place some kind of screens (the less excluding light and air the better) in front of those windows belonging to the debtors, which look into the street. Such windows of the debtors as look upon the felons' yard should also have a light wire screen, or some other check upon communication. On the same account it is desirable to board up a sufficient portion of the iron gate in the entrance, through which a too free communication exists between the public and the debtors, &c. A small wicket aperture might be left in the gate, through which all necessary business might be transacted This last alteration is worthy of attention, independently of all consideration of the debtors, because it is highly important that the public should see and know as little as possible of the interior of a gaol.

13. To fit up a dark cell for refractory prisoners. The cell now used for coals would answer this purpose.

DEVONSHIRE.

TIVERTON.—Town Gaol.

Devonshire. Tiverton. Town Gaol.

Construction.—It is overlooked by two windows of two neighbouring houses. This might be remedied by raising the walls. It is very scanty in cells. But there is some probability of a purchase being made of some neighbouring houses, in which case the whole building might be enlarged, and its discipline much improved.

Number of cells for debtors	1
,, male prisoners	3
,, female ditto	3
Number of yards	2

In four cells there are two beds placed; and in two of the cells I found a double bed. In each male cell there is a privy, which is neatly kept; the women have a good water-closet. There is no infirmary. Two of the day-rooms have each a fireplace, and the debtors' room also. The cells are not heated. The whole is clean and neat.

Management.—The present gaoler is a half-pay serjeant; and I believe that a considerable alteration for the better has taken place under him.

The prisoners are locked up in separate cells during a certain number of days of their term of imprisonment. The day-rooms are still used; and, indeed, as long as there is no method employed of warming the cells in winter, they cannot be dispensed with; their use may, however, be very much restricted as to hours and seasons. Silence is enjoined, and tobacco is forbidden, but I perceived its odour in one part of the prison. The exercise for those in solitary confinement appears to be only one half hour daily, and probably does not always amount even to so much; it is too scanty, and more particularly in a prison like this.

The gaoler, about twice in the year, has usually to convey prisoners to the hulks.

The gaoler orders whatever soap he thinks necessary, and presents his account. It is only lately that he has enjoyed this privilege.

Some of the male prisoners' washing is done out of the prison by their friends.

Diet.—Five-pence a-day is given to the gaoler for each prisoner's food; it used to be 4*d.* The gaoler gives the prisoners tea or coffee twice a-day, with milk and treacle, and a loaf of seconds bread weighing 23 ounces. On alternate days they have also a stew composed of meat, or dripping and potatoes, or broth and potatoes.

Labour.—The hard labour is stone-breaking; this is carried on in the male yard.

Religious and other Instruction.—There is no chapel nor chaplain. The curate of Prior's Quarter gives his aid voluntarily; he sometimes comes to visit the prisoners, and converses with them, and reads aloud to them occasionally. The gaoler every Sunday brings all the prisoners, both male and female, into his parlour, and reads the morning service to them. Hitherto he has not interposed any screen, on these occasions, between the men and women, but he will do so in future. All the religious books that have entered the gaol during the four years of the present gaoler's residence, have been given by various individuals. Not one prisoner has had the sacrament administered to him during the above-mentioned period. The supply of religious books is moderate.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon comes when he is sent for, and occasionally at other times, or otherwise his assistant. The surgeon has attended here 11 years. Since the Midsummer sessions 1836 he has received only the small salary of 6*l.* 6*s.*, previously to which he used to send in a bill annually, which was more beneficial to him. There has been no death in the prison during 11 years. The number of severe complaints during the year 1836 did not amount to six; and the total number of cases in which medicine was administered was about 19. Since Midsummer 1836 the surgeon has kept no register. It would be desirable, perhaps, that his salary should receive a small increase, as well as that a register should be accurately kept. The principal diseases occurring here are very simple. Itch and venereal complaints frequently come in; but the surgeon has never known a case in which itch broke out after admission. Rheumatism occurs sometimes, as well as catarrh, and diarrhœa, but fever and dysentery are rare. Cholera did not appear in the prison, while there were some few cases in the town. A few slight cases of influenza occurred here in the spring. There is no insane prisoner here at present, and any such is very rare. The surgeon remarks that a great improvement has taken place in the cleanliness and general condition of the prison since the entrance of the present gaoler, and a corresponding beneficial change in the health and diseases of the prisoners.

Expenditure.

Borough and Liberty of Tiverton. Expenses of the Bridewell for One Year, from 1st January to 31st December 1836.

	£.	s.	d.
Sustenance of the prisoners	39	1	10
Keeper's salary, coals, candles for the year, with the exception of 18 hundred-weight of coal laid in for the winter	25	0	0
	£64	1	10

N.B.—This does not include all the expenses, such as repairs, bedding, sending prisoners to Exeter, and transports.

Salaries.—Gaoler 25*l.* (no coals nor candles).

The matron receives no salary. She charges 2*d.* apiece for washing the blankets and the mattresses, and a halfpenny each for the pillow-cases.

The surgeon receives 6*l.* 6*s.* annually, for which small sum he also sends in medicines, and is directed to be present at punishments.

Clothing.—There is only a store of two suits kept.

Bedding.—Consists of a mattress, two blankets, and a rug. There are 11 sets of bedding.

Registration.—The only book of this kind kept is a manuscript register by the gaoler.

Escapes.—Two have occurred since the gaoler has been here: neither of the fugitives was retaken.

The NUMBER of PRISONERS committed for One Year, from 11th June 1836 to 12th June 1837.

	Felony.	Misdemeanors.	Assaults.	Vagrants.	Manslaughter.	Neglect of Family.	Trespass.	Breach of the Peace.	Remanded.	TOTAL.	
Committed for one year . . .	14	10	6	6	1	2	2	1	..	42	Of whom were women 9;
Prisoners now confined here . .	9	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	13	Of whom were women 4, at the date of my visit, 15th June 1837.
No debtor was in confinement at the time of my visit.											

General Statistics.

Three out of the 13 prisoners have been committed before. One woman has been twice received here during the last year.

The greatest number at one time, since January 1837, has been 13, exclusive of night charges. The average number is seven.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. There are two infirmary cells wanted.
2. The surgeon should keep a register; his salary is too low.
3. There is a want of account-books.
4. The matron, who has a laborious office, merits a small salary.
5. A deputy should be nominated to discharge the duties of gaoler during the absence of that officer.
6. The gaoler should not be allowed to hold the office of constable; when he is absent, it is impossible that discipline in the prison can be observed. His attention should be confined solely to his duties in the prison, and his salary should have a little addition to it.
7. A fixed diet should be observed.
8. A strict injunction of silence should be issued.
9. A temporary chapel is required, and also a chaplain.
10. The quantity of exercise should be increased.
11. Fixed rules should be made.
12. Books should be provided for the use of the prisoners, at the expense of the town council; and such should be supplied as are recommended by the chaplain.
13. Night charges are received here. When any alterations are made in the building, it will be proper to construct two cells, with a separate entrance distinct from the body of the prison, so that its general order may not be disturbed.
14. A supply of combs is wanting; there are none at present.
15. More bedsteads are required.
16. Finally, it would be very beneficial to all parties, if the present prison were superseded by a larger and better appointed district prison for the county.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

Glamorganshire.
County Gaol and House of Correction.

CARDIFF.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—This prison stands apart from other buildings, at a convenient distance from the town and from the high road. It is a modern edifice, was opened in 1832, and cost about 12,000*l*. Several of the cells are intended to hold two and three prisoners.

The baths are	2
(One is fixed, the other is a loose tub.)	
Kitchen	1
Dark cells	2

(These may be used either for men or women, being placed alone, in separate yards.)

Underground cells	None.
Reception cells	2

(One of which is used, the other is full of lumber. A cell is also set apart for prisoners suffering under the itch.)

Number of wards	12
Day-rooms	12
Exercise yards	12
Work-rooms	2

The yards are paved, and the whole prison is in good condition, but at present it is not very well ventilated; this is a defect, however, which may be easily remedied.

The total number of separate cells is 12 for the debtors, and 31 for the criminals. When more than one prisoner sleeps in a cell, the prison may accommodate 80 prisoners.

There is a separate sick-room for the debtors.

Management.—The keeper, his deputy, matron, with the two turnkeys (who are allowed to go home two nights in every week after all the prisoners are locked up in their cells), are the resident officers.

The prisoners, in their respective day-rooms and yards, associate together until they are locked in their cells at night. There is no separation by day, but at night they sleep in separate cells. One meal takes place at 8 o'clock, another at 1 o'clock, and another at 4 o'clock, or later, according to the season of the year, in the day-rooms. No visits are allowed, excepting under an order from a visiting magistrate, and all letters are examined by the governor. Silence is not as yet enjoined. The prisoners are superintended by an officer, who walks round the area inspecting the different yards, and by a task-master when engaged in labour. Separate confinement during day and night cannot be practised here; the cells are small, but they are sufficiently light to read and to work in. No prisoners at present sleep two in a bed. The keeper was absent at the time of my visit, being engaged in the conveyance of convicts sentenced to transportation. I found no prisoner in solitary confinement. The whole establishment is neat, clean, and attentively conducted.

The Grand Jury Fund.—This is a purse formed highly to the credit of the members of the grand jury, which answers a most benevolent end, and supplies a want which is almost always urgent. By means of the sum thus raised, the keeper is enabled to furnish to prisoners on their discharge a small sum sufficient to maintain them for two or three days.

Diet.

The weekly cost of the diet per head is 2*s.* 0½*d.*
The extra cost of the diet for hard labour is 2¼*d.*
1½ lb. of best seconds bread daily.
1 lb. of potatoes daily.
3 pints of oatmeal gruel.

Those on hard labour have a pint and a half of soup every day, excepting Sundays. The soup is made of Scotch barley, rice, pepper, onions, leeks, carrots, &c.

The present scale of diet was adopted in 1819.

Labour.—The tread-wheel labour is applied to pumping of water and turning a fly regulator; prisoners are also employed in cleaning and whitening the prison, in making and mending, and washing prisoners' clothes. Carpenters', masons', and shoemakers' work has been occasionally practised. The hours of the tread-wheel labour are recorded in the table, No. 17. The untried prisoners have no restriction as to exercise in the yard.

Rules.—The last rules were framed in the year 1819. They are not printed.

Offences and Punishments.—Disorderly conduct and refusing to work upon the tread-wheel are the most common offences, and are punished by solitary confinement and stoppage of diet. From 12 to 36 lashes are inflicted in whipping, which is done in the presence of the surgeon, agreeably to an order from the court of quarter sessions.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain is curate of Cardiff, and is also rector of a parish 15 miles off, at which he does not reside; he was absent at the time of my visit on account of ill health in his family, but his place appeared to be well supplied by his assistant curate. The chaplain performs Divine service once on Sundays, and preaches a sermon; he also reads morning prayers on Wednesdays; the service is delivered sometimes in Welsh sometimes in English; usually twice in English to once in Welsh. The assistant chaplain declares that he has never officiated in the presence of a more orderly, nor of a more attentive congregation. The only complaint which he has to make is directed against the irregular attendance of the master debtors. The gaoler, his son, and two turnkeys are always present during Divine service; his wife also, or his daughter, are always seated on the side of the female prisoners at that time. The sacrament is rarely delivered here. The chaplain often comes to visit the prisoners, but no room is set apart for his use in order to confer privately with them; such an apartment, however, might easily be found, and would prove highly convenient. There is no regular instruction in reading afforded here to the prisoners, but the chaplain sometimes hears the younger prisoners read, and also catechises them. The governor's family also take some interest in teaching. The majority of the prisoners cannot read; and it is remarkable that those who are able to read are usually individuals charged with the worst offences, who are also strangers. The prisoners who are natives of the place and of its vicinity generally cannot read. Several come from Merthyr, who have originally been engaged in the works of that neighbourhood, and have only attended Sunday schools. Some of the prisoners are sent hither for offences on the canals, and some for leaving service.

Whenever it happens that a prisoner can read, he always here makes a good and careful use of his Prayer-book. Most of the prisoners know the Lord's Prayer, and many understand the nature of our Saviour's mission. The greater part of the prisoners are probably dissenters, a circumstance which happens pretty generally in Wales, not through any want of zeal on the part of the national clergy, but from their almost inevitable want of a familiar knowledge of the Welsh language sufficiently intimate to enable them to come home to the intelligence of the labouring classes. Another cause is to be found in the great extent of the parishes. The chaplain has an interview with every prisoner on his admission and on his discharge. There is no committee of ladies here. The chaplain has seen prisoners improved here, and has watched their future progress. He keeps a very explicit journal.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon visits the prison two or three times weekly, and sometimes daily, as occasion may require. The sick are sometimes in the hospital, or sometimes in the cells, according to the malady. The locality of the prison, the diet, and the discipline are peculiarly well directed to ensure health.

The following is an account of the diseases which have occurred in the prison during the year 1836, extracted from the surgeon's journal:—

Some affections of the biliary organs.
„ „ kidneys.
Some trifling cases of diarrhœa.
One case of dropsy in a man of 33 years of age.
One case of cancerous rectum.
Three cases of tinea capitis.
One case of stricture of the bladder.
One case of fistula in ano.
One case of necrosis of tibia.
Some cases of acute lumbago (*not* induced by the tread-wheel).
Three cases of prisoners have been excused from the tread-wheel on account of *hernia*.
One case of fractured arm, from a fall.
One case of diseased knee-joint.
One case of syphilis in a female.
Two cases of erysipelas.
Four cases of itch.
One case of enteritis.

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One case of frostbitten foot in a Portuguese sailor.
One case of gastrodynia, very severe.
One case of acute mania (sent away.)
One case of small-pox.
Two cases of intermittent fever.
Two or three cases of acute and chronic rheumatism.
One case of rheumatism of the face and neck.
One case of abscess under the fascia of the thigh.
Several cases of erysipelas, (one man died of this complaint at the age of 86.) This was the only death which occurred in 1836.

Medicine is given in many slight cases, not enumerated in the schedules, principally purgatives. The surgeon is of opinion that prisoners here do not require a larger diet, after having passed some time in prison; he believes, on the contrary, that, at the end of six months or a year, they are in better health generally than on their first admission. His journal is the most minutely detailed one which I have seen in any prison; it forms a highly instructive record, and deserves to be carefully preserved.

The surgeon is present during the infliction of whipping.

The surgeon has been in office during 17 years; throughout that period he does not recollect the prevalence of typhus fever, nor of any other epidemic whatever. While the epidemic cholera was in the town the inmates of the prison escaped in total freedom from it. The most common disorders which are observed here are ulcers of the legs and affections of the chest, which perhaps are more frequent than any other class of disorders. Venereal diseases have increased subsequently to the formation of a port at Cardiff. Rheumatism is not rare; at present there is not much itch; the prisoners thus affected are kept in separate cells.

There is one lunatic prisoner confined here at present—a female.

Cases of Sickness and Deaths within the year ending Michaelmas 1836.

	Male.	Female.
Slight indisposition	23	3
Infirmary cases	10	2
Greatest number of sick at one time	3	1

Since the year 1820 only six deaths have occurred here (up to September 8th 1837.)

The average number of deaths during 17 years has been, in short, about one death in three years.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Report at the date of my visit (8th September 1837) of prisoners confined here:—

Debtors	7	On county allowance.
„	7	Master debtors.
Total	14	All men
Untried prisoners (men)	2	
Convicted prisoners (men)	9	
Misdemeanors	5	
Convicted women	2	
Misdemeanor, woman	1	
Total of prisoners	19	
„ debtors	14	
Total	33	

No poacher nor smuggler is confined here at present.

	Male.	Female.
The greatest number of prisoners at any one time in the course of the year	54	8

No. II.—Table of the Progress of Population:—

TOTAL NUMBER of COMMITMENTS in the years 1820 to 1836, giving the sum total for each year, and distinguishing the Debtors from the others.

Year.	Debtors.	Other Prisoners.	Total Number.
1820	17	35	52
1821	27	55	82
1822	30	72	102
1823	43	76	119
1824	38	82	120
1825	36	60	96
1826	62	61	123
1827	43	60	103
1828	48	73	121
1829	79	89	168
1830	55	88	143
1831*	52	124	176
1832†	48	152	200
1833	54	136	190
1834	43	185	228
1835	54	163	217
1836	44	166	210

* Merthyr riots. † House of correction consolidated with the county gaol.

Diminution in the number of Prisoners.—This has been of late experienced, and seems to run parallel with the augmented rigour of discipline. Although there has been a considerable influx of strangers, yet we still arrive at the satisfactory conclusion that crime has not latterly increased in proportion to the growth of the population.

No. III.—Registration and Account Books.

Two account-books, containing the expenditure of the prison; register books for all the prisoners, viz., a description book, a receiving book, and a daily statement book, with separate journals for the magistrate, chaplain, surgeon, and keeper.

No. IV.—Escapes.

Since the appointment of the present keeper there have been 10 escapes, and all, excepting two, were retaken.

No. V.—Suicides.

One attempt only has occurred during the period above specified.

No. VI.—Ages of Prisoners admitted within the Year ending Michaelmas 1836.

	Male.	Female.
Under 12 years	1	..
12 years and under 14	..	1
14 „ 17	2	..
17 „ 21	27	3
21 „ 30	80	4
30 years and upwards	54	12
Total	164	20

No. VII.—State of Instruction of Prisoners (within the time above specified).

	Male.	Female.
Can neither read nor write	72	12
Can read only	43	4
Can read or write, or both imperfectly	45	3
Can read and write well	4	1
Total	164	20

No. VIII.—The Number of Prisoners (except debtors) who have been committed before to this or other Prisons during the Year ending Michaelmas 1836:—

	Male.	Female.
Once	26	3
Twice	3	1
Thrice	2	..
Four times or more	3	..

N. B. Fourteen were committed once to other prisons, and one was committed three times to other prison or prisons—all males.

No. IX.—Mode in which Prisoners from Assizes and Sessions have been employed.

	Male.	Female.
Hard labour	74	9
Employment, not being hard labour	76	6
Not employed	14	5
Total	164	20

	Male.	Female.
No. X.—Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justices to Solitary Confinement	10	2

No. XI.—Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justices to be whipped (privately) 2

No. XII.—Number of Punishments for Offences within the Prison in the course of the Year.

	Tried.		Untried.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Stoppage of diet	9	1	1	..

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No. XIV.—Clothing and Bedding Table:—

Number of Articles.	Male.	Female.
Night-caps	..	12
Day-caps	13	12
Jackets	21	..
Waistcoats	23	..
Trousers	21	..
Shirts	38	..
Stockings	35	5
Handkerchiefs	20	4
Clogs	20	..
Gowns	..	12
Petticoats	..	5
Shifts	..	10
Beds	38	5
Rugs	51	5
Pillow-cases	..	8
Towels	20	4

No. XV.—Total cost per Annum under the following heads:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total cost of prison diet	184	2	8
,, male and female clothing	42	16	10
,, bedding	15	19	5
,, extra allowances by order of surgeon	4	19	6
,, fuel	55	0	2
,, soap	18	14	10
,, candles	6	18	0
,, washing	1	19	4
,, stationery	5	19	0
,, books	2	1	3
,, furniture	25	0	0
,, officers' salaries, fees, and emoluments	519	0	6
,, removal of prisoners to take their trials at assizes and sessions	63	17	2
Removing transported convicts	60	5	0
Sundries not mentioned	98	18	2½
Total expenses of the prison for the year	1,105	11	10½

No. XVI.—DIETARY.

		Bread.	Potatoes.	Soup.	Gruel.
		ozs.	lbs.	Pints.	Pints.
Sunday	Men	24	1	1	3
	Women	24	1	1	3
	Boys	24	1	..	3
Monday	Men	24	1	1	3
	Women	24	1	1	3
	Boys	24	1	..	3
Tuesday	Men	24	1	1	3
	Women	24	1	1	3
	Boys	24	1	..	3
Wednesday	Men	24	1	1	3
	Women	24	1	1	3
	Boys	24	1	..	3
Thursday	Men	24	1	1	3
	Women	24	1	1	3
	Boys	24	1	..	3
Friday	Men	24	1	1	3
	Women	24	1	1	3
	Boys	24	1	..	3
Saturday	Men	24	1	1	3
	Women	24	1	1	3
	Boys	24	1	..	3

No. XVII.—SCALE OF TREADWHEEL LABOUR, as delivered by the Gaoler.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at a time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day, as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheel per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
January...	7	12	7½ in.	48 steps.	⅓	8,400	840	8,400	..	Pumping water, and turning a fly regulator.
February..										
March	9	,,	,,	,,	,,	10,800	1,080	10,800	..	
April										
May.....										
June	10	,,	,,	,,	,,	12,800	1,200	12,800	..	
July.....										
August ...										
September.										
October ...	9	,,	,,	,,	,,	10,800	1,080	10,800	..	
November.	7	,,	,,	,,	,,	8,400	840	8,400	..	
December.										

No. XVIII.—Miscellaneous Averages.

	£.	s.	d.
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison, per annum	50	6	6½
Prison diet per head per annum	0	17	1¼
Prison clothing and bedding, per head per annum	0	6	4½
Cost of each prisoner per day	0	1	8½

Aggregate number of days passed by all the prisoners, including debtors, in the year, 12,792.

No. XIX.—OFFICERS' SALARIES, FEES, EMOLUMENES, ALLOWANCES, &c. &c.

Officers.	No. of each.	Salaries. £.	s.	d.	Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances. £.	s.	d.	Total. £.	s.	d.	Nature of Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.
Governor	1	300	0	0	2	0	6	302	0	6	1*s.* 6*d.* from every debtor who is examined under the Insolvent Act, as allowed by Act of Parliament, 7 Geo. 4. c. 57. s. 80.
Chaplain	1	40	0	0	..			40	0	0	
Matron	1	20	0	0	..			20	0	0	
Surgeon and Medicine	1	40	0	0	..			40	0	0	
Task-masters	1	36	8	0	..			36	8	0	
Chief Turnkey	1	41	12	0	..			41	12	0	
Turnkey, male	1	39	0	0	..			39	0	0	
								519	0	6	

No. XX.—Receipts.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount received for subsistence of military prisoners	2	10	0
Other receipts	2	8	0
Total	4	18	0

No. XXI.—Total Expenses of Prison for the Year.

	£.	s.	d.
Total expense of prison for the year	1,105	11	10½
Ditto receipts of ditto	4	18	0
Actual cost to the county and borough, not including alterations or additions	1,100	13	10½

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. Silence can never be enforced at the tread-wheel so long as the taskmaster is a prisoner, which is the case at present. In order to maintain good discipline it is indispensable that an officer, not a prisoner, should always be present during the labour.

2. To appoint a separate infirmary for each sex. At present the same room is occasionally used for both sexes. It would be desirable that the room over the wash-house (adjoining the female ward) should be fitted up as an infirmary for the sick females, and that the upper room in the present sick ward should be reserved exclusively as an infirmary for male prisoners. The male room should have three bedsteads always kept in it, and the female room should always have two bedsteads ready in it; and a night-stool and a table should be always kept in each room. In the lower room of the male infirmary a cupboard should be made to hold the medicines, bottles, &c., for the sick.

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3. To place a curtain in front of the female seats in the chapel.

4. To enjoin, by rule, that all prisoners shall sleep in separate cells, whenever there are as many cells as prisoners.

5. To provide combs in all the wards. There were very few at the time of my visit, and those few all belonging to the prisoners.

6. To discontinue the usage of allowing women to work at the tread-wheels, which has been abandoned in the generality of prisons.

7. That debtors be not allowed to transfer their liquor tickets to others, by which means one individual may obtain more than is permitted by the rules.

8. To make the windows to open in the day-rooms, and to fill up the upper part of the windows with glass, instead of being left open, as at present, in every weather.

9. To appropriate the day-room of the female debtors (when no female debtor happens to be in the prison) as a temporary apartment in which the chaplain may converse with prisoners when he thinks proper, and to light a fire in it in winter for that purpose.

10. To enlarge the windows in the convicted females' sleeping cell.

11. To provide a proper cover for the privies in the male yards.

CARDIFF.—Borough Debtors' Gaol.

Borough Debtors' Gaol.

This gaol forms a portion of the building which was formerly the county prison. Another portion of that edifice has been sold off for other purposes. There is one room on the ground floor reserved for female debtors, and two rooms above for the male debtors: these rooms are in bad condition. There is a paved yard, a pump, and a privy. The debtors receive the same allowance of food which is distributed in the county gaol. Their stay does not usually exceed two or three months. At the date of my visit, 8th September 1837, no debtor was in confinement here. During the year 1836 nine debtors were admitted: they were all men: one remained 12 months. Since the 1st of January 1837 three male debtors have been received. There are no rules signed by a magistrate. The prisoners are confined here for any amount of debt. There has been no death during 10 years; and there have been only two or three slight cases of sickness, on which occasions the gaoler has sometimes applied to the surgeon of the county gaol for assistance. There is no chaplain. No escape has taken place here during 10 years. The gaoler receives a salary of 30*l.* a-year, and has coals: he receives no fees whatever from the debtors, nor any allowance for bedding. As constable of the town, he serves the processes.

Lock-up House.

Under the court-house is situated an unfit and insecure place of this denomination, which, five years ago, was used as the borough gaol. Offenders are brought hither on night charges, and rarely pass here more than one night. The keeper, who is the gaoler of the debtors' prison, receives 6*d.* a-day for the support of each individual. It is proposed to build four new lock-up cells at the debtors' gaol.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Gloucestershire.

St. Briavels. Debtors' Gaol.

ST. BRIAVELS.—Debtors' Gaol.

This establishment occupies a portion of an ancient castle. The present keeper was last appointed by Lord Duncannon, the constable of the castle, in March 1836, and, in this appointment, the establishment is called His Majesty's Gaol. It is in very bad condition; the ceiling is decaying, and the whole is more or less dilapidated. The keeper has sometimes whitewashed and made some small repairs at his own expense.

The keeper was originally appointed by the late Duke of Beaufort, who was also constable of the castle, and has resided here about 19 years. He enjoys his dwelling free from rent and taxes, and he receives 25*l.* annually from the agent of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests. About 10 years ago the Commissioners made some repairs. The keeper also receives from each prisoner 1*s.* per week for the use of bedstead, bedding, and furniture, all of which is his own property.

The prisoners have no provision whatever for their support, except that which they may obtain from their own friends: no allowance whatever is made for them from any quarter: they once received a small allowance from the county, but that is now refused. The keeper has consequently been sometimes obliged by the utter destitution of the inmates to relieve them from his own pocket. There is only one room sufficiently secure for the detention of prisoners, and that one is in very bad condition. There is a water-closet adjoining. There is no room specially appropriated for female debtors; and when any such are placed here, the keeper arranges them with his own female relatives. There is no yard for exercise: there is a garden, indeed, but that is not sufficiently protected to admit of its being used for exercise. At the date of my visit I found two men confined here. The greatest number who have been here at one time within the present keeper's knowledge has been six. At one time there were four men here, and two women. Since the keeper's first appointment 103 debtors have been admitted, of whom only four were females; and no female remained above six months.

The prisoners sent hither are put in by the court of St. Briavels, belonging to the Forest of Dean. The recorder of the court presides. The amount of debt does not appear to be limited.

HORSLEY.—COUNTY HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Construction.—This prison is excellently situated; it has a boundary wall, and is not overlooked from any quarter. The total number of male yards, including the tread-mill yard, is three. There is also one yard for females. There are three day-rooms. The supply of water is good. The cells are light and well ventilated, and not unsuited for confinement during some hours of the day. The female cells are some of them very ill-placed: they form a range running round an extensive hall, into which most of the cells open. This hall is surrounded by galleries, like those of the older inns in the city of London: into these galleries the cells chiefly open. Communication is consequently extremely easy at night.

The total number of cells of all kinds is 92. Of these are—

Day cells for the men	21
Day cells for the women	4
Night cells for the women	4

The remaining cells are chiefly sleeping cells for male prisoners.

There are a wash-house, a laundry, two dark cells for the men, and one dark cell for the women: those for the men are not secure. There are separate cells for 80 prisoners.

One of the privies is in bad repair.

Management.—Untried prisoners remain here only for a few days, previously to being sent to Gloucester. All the prisoners sleep at present in separate beds. The system observed here at present is to shut up the prisoners in day cells when not at hard labour, and when not in the exercise yard, and to give them another separate cell at night. Silence has not as yet been ordered, nor, indeed, can it be really enforced without the assistance of another turnkey. There is only one turnkey, properly so called, and the miller, who occasionally acts in that capacity. Tobacco is forbidden. The prisoners who work at the tread-wheel have half an hour for breakfast, and one hour for dinner: during this time they can take some air in the yards. Those not at hard labour are allowed to take exercise during two hours daily, at two different times. The female debtors are placed with the other female prisoners. Prisoners sentenced at the sessions are whipped here sometimes. A man comes from Tetbury to execute the sentence: the surgeon is always present. About five whippings have taken place during the last 12 months. On Sundays the prisoners are locked up in their day cells during the chief part of the day. In summer the prisoners are unlocked at six o'clock, and are locked up at seven: in winter they are unlocked at sun-rise, and are locked up at sun-set. Combs are allowed here, and a coarse sort of towel. There were no punishments inflicted here during the last quarter. When prisoners are placed in a dark cell for offences committed within the prison, they receive only bread and water; but when they are sentenced by the court to solitary confinement, they obtain the usual diet.

The whole prison is clean and neat. Very few prisoners are sent hither from the assizes; they mostly come from the quarter sessions.

Diet.—Prisoners confined for want of sureties and fines are allowed to receive food from without. The bread allowed is of the best quality: it cost 2½*d.* a-loaf last quarter and during the present quarter. The diet consists of bread, potatoes, and gruel. One pound and a half of bread, one pound and a half of potatoes, and three half-pints of gruel, are the daily allowance.

The poor debtors receive 3*d.* a-day for their support. There has been no change in the diet for the last eight years. Half an ounce of salt daily is allowed to each prisoner.

Labour.—The turnkey is not always present during the hours of labour, which is a serious evil: it may be corrected by the engagement of an additional turnkey.

The tread-wheel is the chief means of supplying hard labour; and breaking stones is sometimes practised here as hard labour.

The usual periods of labour are enumerated in the table of tread-wheel labour presently to follow.

The women make shoes, their own shifts, caps, &c., and mend for all. The women also wash all the men's clothing.

The cooking is done by the matron, with a female prisoner to assist.

SCALE of TREAD-WHEEL LABOUR, as delivered by the Gaoler.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheel will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off the Wheel to the Total.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheel per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheel per Minute.	Application of its Power.
January..	6	10	1 Foot.	5	17,280	720	3 Farthings.	Twice.	3-Horse Power, to Grind Corn.
February .	7	..	..	..	20,160	840			
March ...	9	..	..	..	25,920	1,080			
April	10	..	..	..	28,800	1,260			
May	,,	..	..	..	,,	,,			
June	,,	..	..	..	,,	,,			
July	,,	..	..	..	,,	,,			
August ..	,,	..	..	..	,,	,,			
September	,,	..	..	..	,,	,,			
October ..	9	..	..	..	25,920	1,080			
November	7	..	..	..	20,160	840			
December	6	..	..	..	17,280	720			

Letters.—Are all read by the gaoler.

III.
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Gloucestershire.
Horsley.
County House of Correction.

Visits.—Are only admitted by an order from the committing magistrate. The turnkey is always present.

The greatest number recollected to have been here at any one time is 87.

The lowest number of prisoners during the last 12 months has been 19.

Statistics of the Married and Single.—Of the prisoners now in the gaol, 10 men are married; 1 woman is married.

Escapes.—The head turnkey, who has been here eight years and a half, has known only two instances in which prisoners have made their way outside the walls; one was retaken; both were men. He is not aware of any other attempt.

Suicide.—No attempt has been ascertained to have taken place during the last eight years and a half.

Fire.—No alarm from fire has been experienced during the above-mentioned period.

Bedding.—Each prisoner has a hair mattress, one blanket, one coverlet with a blanket sewn inside, and sheets. The sheets are washed monthly; but sheets are misplaced in a prison, except in cases of illness. The bedding is abundant.

Clothing.—For the men, consists of a nightcap, jacket, trowsers, shirt, stockings, shoes, and waistcoat. For the women, it comprises a cap, jacket, stockings, shoes, shift, and petticoat. For the convicts the dress is party-coloured. The clothing is not so ample in store as the bedding, but more is ordered.

Exercise.—Prisoners who work at the tread-wheel have an additional daily period of exercise allowed them of half an hour at breakfast time and half an hour at dinner time. Prisoners who are not sentenced to hard labour, are permitted to take two hours exercise daily in the yard, not all at once, but at two different times of the day.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon visits twice a-week, and more frequently if sent for; he lives at Tetbury, which is at the distance of about five miles. No malignant cholera was witnessed here during its epidemic progress. During eight years one woman has lain-in here. During eight years only two deaths have occurred here; one was of an old man, aged 72; the other of a child, aged 12 months. There has been no death at all for the last five years. There is one lunatic now in confinement here. The following is the report of the number of cases of illness delivered quarterly at the sessions, by the surgeon, during the last year:—

October 1836.—Six cases, and several slight indispositions.

December 1836.—Four cases; besides which several suffered under itch, and slight venereal disorders.

April 1837.—Eight cases; besides which several suffered under itch.

June 1837.—Seven cases of illness.

Report of Health for the Year ending Michaelmas 1836.

	Male.	Female.
Slight indispositions.	25	5
Infirmary cases	. .	. .
Number of sick at a time	2	. .
Deaths	None.	

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain lives near Tetbury, at a distance of three miles and a half. He has no other duty besides that of chaplain to this establishment. He comes hither twice a-week, on Sundays and Wednesdays; on Sundays he delivers service twice; always preaches one sermon, and sometimes two sermons on that day; on Wednesdays he reads prayers to and admonishes the prisoners; he visits the prisoners in their cells, and also takes them into a private room for the purpose of exhortation.

The following is the result of a personal investigation, made by the chaplain, respecting the state of education among the prisoners confined here at various times. The result is important, because it is accurate and searching, which is far from being the case when prisoners are merely questioned as to their proficiency by the gaoler or turnkey, according to the routine commonly pursued.

On the 1st January 1835 there were 59 prisoners, of whom 54 were men and 5 women; of the men, 41 could read, and 4 could read a little; of the women, 4 could read, and 1 could read a little; of the men, 9 could not read at all.

On the 28th June 1835 there were 33 prisoners, of whom 26 were men and 7 women; of the 26 men, 21 could read, and 5 could write; all the 7 women could read, and 5 of them could write. Thus, out of the whole number, 5 only were unable to read.

On the 23d January 1836, out of 36 prisoners, including 34 men and 2 women, 12 could read and write, 10 could only read, and 14 could neither read nor write.

On the 16th October 1836, out of 57 prisoners, including 48 men and 9 women, 20 men could read and write, 14 could read only moderately, and 14 could not read at all; of the 9 women, only 2 could read at all.

On the 5th April 1837 there were 31 prisoners, 28 men and 3 women; of the men, 10 could read well, 7 could read indifferently, 7 could write, 11 could not read at all; of the 3 women, 2 could read pretty well, and 1 could not read at all.

The behaviour of the prisoners at chapel is good.

The following is the substance of a communication with which the chaplain has favoured me:—

"Many of the books which had been left in the prison were torn there. Previously to this, a Testament had been placed in the cell of every prisoner who could read; afterwards I gave one to any individual who wished for it; and generally, since then, they have carried their books about with them, tucked up under their coat or waistcoat, whence they have been taken out in order to be shown to me.

"My custom is to give every person who can read at all easily, that is, without spelling every word beyond monosyllables, a small tract or book upon their entrance, in the course of the first week, with offer to all to change them, if they will keep them clean, and return them through the turnkey: and upon their going out, two of these are given to every person discharged, whether they can read or not.

"With regard to Bibles, the chaplain who preceded me, submitted to the court of quarter sessions, that Bibles should be provided for the use of the prison; but they supplied only Testaments.

"*Bibles* there are none in the prison, save *one*, which I myself sent there, to be lent to any prisoner who might wish for it.

"The little books, which I give away, are supplied to me gratuitously, through the kindness of a benevolent friend, a magistrate in the neighbourhood. I should be glad to know how I may procure books from any public quarter, which I have never yet done.

"I trust we shall be able to replace the Testaments in the cells, after they have been supplied with paper for other purposes.

"I understand that you also think it desirable there should be some means of teaching the prisoners to read. This has long been my own wish, and that of my predecessor. In his Journal of 27th December 1833, he made the following entry:—'The chaplain respectfully submits to the court of quarter sessions, that a schoolmaster might be employed to teach such as may be unable to read; and that a portion of time be allowed the prisoners on the tread-wheel every day to read the Holy Scriptures.'

"No notice was taken of this, and, therefore, I felt unwilling to renew the subject publicly, though I have long wished and contemplated the deducting 10*l.* from my own salary to be appropriated to this purpose.

"Some of the men would certainly learn to read, as they have often made requests for spelling-books; and the one or two which I have procured and sent them, they have taken great care of."

General Statistics.

No. I.—A View of the Progress of Recommittals (to this Prison only), from 1830 to 1836:—

Year.	Total Number of Admissions.	Twice.	Three Times.	Four Times.	Five Times.	Six Times.	Seven Times.	Eight Times.
1831	376	23	31	22	5	2	1	1
1832	342	30	5	12	4	3	..	..
1833	320	22	2	3	2	1	2	..
1834	344	35	9	10	9	2	1	1
1835	353	32	17	8	7	2	2	1
1836	308	34	17	2	2	1	..	1

During the above period 1 prisoner was recommitted 11 times, and 1 prisoner 12 times.

No. II.—Registration, Account-books:—

Cash book,
Governor's journal,
Diet book,
Bread book,
Register,
Store book,
Coal book,
Soap book,
Waste book,
Register of punishments,
Mill book,
Magistrates' journal,
Chaplain's journal,
Surgeon's journal,
Index to register.

No. III.—The total Number of Prisoners confined here during the Year ending Michaelmas 1836, was 353; of whom 313 were Males, and 40 were Females:—

Ages of prisoners from assizes and quarter sessions.	Male.	Female.
Under 12 years	..	..
12 years and under 14	11	1
14 „ 17	32	3
17 „ 21	57	6
21 „ 30	74	10
30 years and upwards	87	12
Total	261	32

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Gloucestershire. Horsley. County House of Correction.

No. IV.—State of Education among the above:—

	Male.	Female.
Can neither read nor write	56	10
Read only	119	15
Read and write imperfectly	97	8
Read and write well	1	..
Total	273	33

No. V.—The greatest Number of Prisoners at any Time in the course of the Year

Male.	Female.
47	9

No. VI.—Number of Prisoners (except Debtors) who have been committed before to this or other Prisons in the course of the Year:—

	Male.	Female.
Once	23	3
Twice	26	2
Thrice	11	3
Four times or more	5	..

No. VII.—Number of Prisoners sentenced by Court of Justice to solitary Confinement

Male.	Female.
8	..

No. VIII.—Number of Prisoners sentenced to be whipped:—

	Male.	Female.
Publicly	..	..
Privately	6	..

No. IX.—Number of Punishments for Offences within the Prison in the course of the Year:—

	Tried.		Untried.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Whipping	..	..	..	..
Irons	1	..	..	..
Dark cells	1	..	..	..
Solitary cells	13	..	..	..
Stoppage of diet	19	..	..	..
Other punishments	3	..	..	..
Total	37	..	..	..

No. X.—Stock of Clothing and Bedding:—

	Number of Articles.	
	Male.	Female.
Night-caps	..	..
Day-caps	40	12
Jackets	26	..
Waistcoats	46	..
Trowsers	30	..
Shirts	60	..
Stockings	60	..
Handkerchiefs	..	12
Shoes	..	12
Clogs	20	..
Gowns	..	8
Petticoats	..	8
Beds	80	..
Rugs	80	..
Pillow cases	..	..
Towels	12	..
Aprons	..	12
Blankets	88	..
Shifts	..	12
Sheets	76 pair.	

No. XI.—Expenditure for the Year ending Michaelmas 1836:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total cost of prison diet	190	19	9
Male and female clothing	42	3	8
Bedding	..		
Carried forward	233	3	5

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	233	3	5
Extra allowances by order of the surgeon	0	6	2
Beer and spirits			
Fuel	39	5	2
Soap	6	6	0
Washing	0	15	0
Cooking			
Stationery			
Account-books	0	13	0
Furniture			
Officers' salary, fees, and emoluments*	193	7	0
Removing transports, convicts, &c.			
Sundries not mentioned	154	12	9½
Total expenses of the prison	£635	10	4½

	£.	s.	d.
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison	36	0	5½
Diet per head per annum	4	18	0½
Prison clothing and bedding per head per annum	0	4	0¾

No. XII.—Profits from Productive Labour during the above Year £11 10 9

No. XIII.—Salaries:—

Officers.	No. of each.	Salaries. £.	s.	d.	Fees and Emoluments. £.	s.	d.	Total. £.	s.	d.	Extras.
Governor	1	100	0	0							Coals and candles.
Chaplain	1	80	0	0							
Matron	1	20	0	0							
Surgeon and medicines	1	30	0	0							
Turnkey	1	36	10	0							Coals and candles.
Miller	1	36	10	0							Has now 2s. per week more, and coals and candles.
Total	6	303	0	0							

No. XIV.—Average Number of Prisoners confined here during each of the last four Quarters (excluding Fractions):—

First quarter	35
Second ditto	36
Third ditto	46
Fourth ditto	41

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. The male and female infirmaries have been diverted from their original destination, and have been employed as sleeping-rooms for the keeper's family. They were certainly not well fitted for their first purpose, because they adjoined each other, and the sexes might thus communicate. In lieu of these rooms it would be expedient to appropriate the present store-room, which has a chimney, as a male infirmary; and to divide the laundry, which is a very large room, into two parts, one of which might continue to serve as a laundry, and the other might be converted into a female infirmary.

2. Separate confinement might here be adopted to a certain extent; that is, in combination with tread-wheel labour, or exercise, at certain fixed hours. The cells are light and well ventilated, and they are also sufficiently numerous.

3. Another turnkey is absolutely necessary, in order to maintain silence; and equally so, if silence should not be enjoined: at present there is only one turnkey, and the miller, who also acts in that capacity.

4. The females are sometimes placed, from unavoidable circumstances, in the male cells opening on the galleries. In order to provide them with more ample accommodation, and to prevent this transfer of them to the male cells, it would be useful and easy to employ the four day-cells belonging to the females as sleeping-cells, for which purpose they are well suited.

* Not including chaplain and surgeon.

LAWFORD'S GATE.—COUNTY BRIDEWELL.

Construction.—This prison is secure, well ventilated, and moderately dry. The windows are generally not glazed, but are protected by shutters. There is one dark cell only. There are 3 day-rooms and 4 airing-yards, 5 classes or divisions, and 16 day-cells.

The number of prisoners whom the prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping-cells is 38.

This is one of the few prisons in which a provision has been made for heating the cells in winter. There are two stoves arranged for this purpose on the ground-floor; a pipe runs from each to the roof, passing through each corridor, and diffusing thus a certain degree of warmth, which is probably very moderate.

All the cells are single ones; no cell holds two or more bedsteads.

There is at present no proper wash-house for the employment of the female prisoners; the room, which appears originally to have been designed for that purpose, is now appropriated as a kitchen for the keeper, who has no other one. The underground-room, which is used as the kitchen prison, has no drain or sink.

Management.—The whole building is neat and clean. No debtors are received. Two turnkeys are engaged here, in addition to the keeper and his wife, who is the matron. The turnkeys are appointed by the magistrates. The system of day and night-cells is practised here, as elsewhere in this county. There are always night-cells sufficiently numerous to accommodate every prisoner separately at night, but there are not always enough day-cells to furnish a separate day-cell for each prisoner. Each prisoner takes his meals separately in his day-cell, and every one sleeps separately in his night-cell; there was one proper exception to this last rule, at the time of my visit, in the case of a female prisoner who was subject to fits, and who accordingly was placed in the same cell with another female prisoner. Those prisoners who are not on hard labour remain about six hours in their day-cells, and then walk about in the yard at various times, and in the presence of a turnkey.

Tobacco is forbidden.

Silence is enjoined, and is practised in a considerable degree: the gaoler's apartments are so placed that he easily hears all that is said at night, if his attention is awakened. The conduct of the prisoners is orderly and good. Prisoners receive no assistance from the county rates, nor from any other source, on their discharge.

Rules.—The keeper observes, as far as is possible on the small scale of his establishment, the rules recommended by the Lords' Committee in the circular of the Home Secretary.

Diet.—All the prisoners have 1lb. and a half of bread daily. Prisoners for fines, and want of sureties, and the untried, may receive a breakfast or dinner daily from their friends without. Those on hard labour are allowed an ounce and a half of oatmeal, made into gruel, for breakfast, and 2lbs. of potatoes daily. The bread is of seconds' quality. 100lbs. of bread cost 16*s.* 4*d.*, according to the last contract. Prisoners sentenced to solitary confinement receive the ordinary allowance of food. Prisoners on hard labour receive half an ounce of salt daily.

The dress of the prisoners consists of a jacket, waistcoat, a pair of trousers, a pair of stockings, a pair of shoes, a cap, and a linen shirt. The shirts and stockings are washed at the county expense, and delivered to the prisoners clean every Saturday night. If prisoners are provided with decent clothes, and have a change, they are allowed to wear their own, and their linen is washed for them. The prison dress costs the county about 1*l.* 5*s.*; the bedding consists of a straw bed, two sheets, two blankets, and a coverlet. The sheets are given out clean once a month. The cost of the bedding is about 1*l.* 3*s.*

Unless when they are ill the allowance of sheets is not desirable for prisoners, being a luxury to which they have sometimes not been accustomed at home.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs divine service and delivers a sermon every Sunday. He reads prayers also every Wednesday and Friday. Usually twice in the week he hears the prisoners read and discourses with them collectively. In his journal he enters a memorandum of the number of prisoners who have attended in the chapel. The sacrament has not been delivered here since the present keeper has been in office. The chaplain is rector of the parish. There is a fair supply of books.

The women remain in their day-room during the performance of Divine service; their day-room has windows which open on the chapel.

Hours of Locking-up and of Unlocking.—They unlock at sunrise and lock up at sunset, in winter; in summer they unlock at six in the morning, and lock up at half-past six in the evening.

Punishments.—The punishment for offences committed within the prison consists in confinement in a dark cell; there have been 21 such punishments within the last two years.

Labour.—There is a tread-wheel which holds six prisoners; it is not applied to any purpose, but it can be used for pumping water, if desired; it has compartments. There is also a crank, which is capable of employing one prisoner, and which is used for raising water. The other occupations consist in masonry, shoemaking, tailoring, and cooking. There is sometimes no female prisoner here for months together; at such times they are obliged to hire a woman to wash; but when there are any female prisoners, they are employed in that occupation. There is no wash-house except the kitchen, which is small and underground, and in which there is the additional inconvenience of the occasional presence of a male prisoner, who is employed as cook. Boys are engaged in breaking stones, which are afterwards sold. The

labour-yard is well arranged, and a turnkey is always present during the hours of labour. The labour produces no profit in money.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon visits twice a-week, and more frequently if occasion demands his attendance. The amount of illness is small. No cholera is believed to have occurred here. Six men were suffering under the influenza at the same time in the spring; they lay in the male infirmary, on four bedsteads placed together. No death has happened here for seven years. During the two years that the keeper has resided here no female prisoner has lain in. There is no lunatic prisoner in confinement. For prisoners affected with the itch separate cells are reserved. There are two good infirmaries, with a fire-place and water-closet in each. There is a bath in the male infirmary. In the schedules presented to the Secretary of State, for the two years 1834-5 and 1835-6, I find no entry of any case of sickness at all.

Suicide.—There has been no attempt at suicide during the two years of the keeper's residence here.

Re-committals.—Of the prisoners now in confinement four have been committed hither once before.

Escapes.—No attempt at escape has taken place within the knowledge of the present keeper.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Registration and account-books.

Cash-book.
Governor's occurrence-book.
Prison register.
Magistrates' journal.
Chaplain's journal.
Surgeon's journal.
Extra diet-book.
Rough register of numbers and of loaves of bread.
Governor's rough account-book.
Punishment-book.

No. II.—On 3d July 1837, the date of my visit, 20 prisoners were confined here, of whom

18 were men and
2 females.

Of these were—

1 remanded for examination,
2 men for assaults,
15 men for felonies (all from sessions), and
2 women-vagrants.

No. III.—View of the Progress of the Population.

The prison-register begins on the 7th of August 1827:—

From 7th August 1827 to 18th November 1830 were admitted .	1,000
From 18th November 1830 to 12th November 1833 were admitted	1,000
From 12th November 1833 to 1st July 1837 were admitted .	969
Total	2,969

There is an apparent diminution recently in the number of admissions, owing to the circumstance that two large parishes which used to contribute prisoners to this establishment are now taken into the boundaries of Bristol, and send their prisoners to the Bristol City Gaol.

No. IV.—Number of Prisoners committed during the last Year, from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836:—282.

No. V.—Greatest Number of Prisoners here at one time, during the above period, was—30.

No. VI.—Re-committals, during the above period, 2; both of whom had been committed four times previously.

No. VII.—Expenditure, Salaries, and Averages of the Four Quarters of the Year, ending at Easter 1837, as presented by the Gaoler to the Magistrates.

From Trinity to Michaelmas Sessions 1836:—

Average number of prisoners at a time	$14\frac{3}{4}$		
Average number at extra food . .	$8\frac{3}{4}$		
	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Expense of ordinary allowance	14	9	3
„ extra food	5	10	7
„ extra provision for sick		..	
Carried forward	19	19	10

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Gloucestershire.

Lawford's Gate, County Bridewell.

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	19	19	10
Clothing	3	12	8
Coals		..	
Attendance of keeper at sessions		..	
Contingencies	6	15	7
Additions or alterations in building	31	16	9½
Salary to keeper from last sessions 22 10 0			
„ matron, ditto 5 0 0			
„ turnkey, one quarter 9 2 6			
„ assistant, one quarter, from 6th July to 17th October 8 8 6			
	45	1	0
	110	8	6½
Received in cash for clogs and a basket	1	1	10
	£109	6	8½

Trinity Sessions 1837 :—

Average number of prisoners at a time $20\frac{5}{76}$

Average number at extra food $14\frac{1}{2}$

	£.	s.	d.
Expense of ordinary allowance	17	5	8
„ extra food	5	19	9
„ extra provision for sick		..	
Clothing		..	
Coals	6	4	10
Attendance of keeper at sessions		..	
Contingencies	7	8	10
Salary to keeper from last sessions 22 10 0			
„ matron, ditto 5 0 0			
„ turnkey, ditto, one quarter 9 2 6			
„ turnkey, ditto 7 0 0			
	43	12	6
	£80	11	8

From Michaelmas to Epiphany Sessions 1837 :—

Average number of prisoners at a time $13\frac{1}{2}$

Average number at extra food $9\frac{3}{4}$

	£.	s.	d.
Expense of ordinary allowance	11	5	4
„ extra food	5	11	0
„ extra provision for sick		..	
Clothing		..	
Coals	5	18	4
Contingencies	4	16	3
Salary to keeper from last sessions 22 10 0			
„ matron, ditto 5 0 0			
„ turnkey, ditto, one quarter 9 2 6			
„ taskmaster, ditto 9 2 6			
	45	15	0
	£73	5	11

From Epiphany to Easter Sessions 1837 :—

Average number of prisoners at a time $20\frac{1}{4}$

Average number at extra food $18\frac{1}{2}$

	£.	s.	d.
Expense of ordinary allowance	22	10	8
„ extra food	10	9	2
„ extra provision for seven sick	0	13	0
Clothing	3	11	9
Coals	6	18	9
Contingencies	8	13	7
Repairs to tread-mill		..	
Repairing building, &c.		..	
Salary to keeper from last sessions 22 10 0			
„ matron, ditto 5 0 0			
„ turnkey, ditto 9 2 6			
„ taskmaster, ditto 9 2 6			
	45	15	0
	98	11	11
From Westbury Union for clogs	1	4	0
	£97	7	11

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To place a bathing-tub, or bath of some kind, in the female infirmary.
2. To prepare a wash-house for the female prisoners distinct from the present prison kitchen.
3. To fill up part of the interstices of the gate at the end of the female prisoners' corridor, which looks on the staircase by which the male prisoners sometimes ascend; this gives rise to occasional communication between the male and female prisoners; a little wood-work would remove this facility.
4. To place bedsteads in one of the infirmaries, which at present contains none.
5. To alter the window of the "fines" day-room, so as to enable it to be opened at will.
6. To make a similar alteration in the window of the glazed cell, in the female ward.
7. To arrange a small pane in the windows at the end of the lobbies, so as to enable it to be opened and shut at pleasure, for the sake of ventilation.
8. To convert the two solitary cells, enclosed between gates, into day-cells or night-cells, by enlarging the windows. At present they are too dark to answer properly for solitary confinement; and they are not wanted in the capacity of dark cells, as there is already a dark cell here.

LITTLE DEAN.—County House of Correction.

Little Dean. County House of Correction.

Construction.—There are four wards, four yards, and four day-rooms. In one class or ward are placed the men sentenced to hard labour; in another the men not sentenced to hard labour; in another, men for trial and for want of sureties; and in the last are the women. There are two lodges, one on each side of the gate; but they are so damp that they are not used for a residence. The prison in general is dry in the summer, and it is pretty well ventilated. It is not very secure. Here, as in other county prisons of Gloucestershire, there are day-cells as well as night-cells, but not sufficiently numerous to accommodate all the prisoners. All the sleeping-cells are built for one prisoner only; if the number of prisoners exceed 23, some are put into the hospital-ward, others into the day-rooms, but they are never put two together into the cells. The number of sleeping-cells is 23; the day-cells are eight in number. The cells have not glazed windows, but openings protected by iron bars and by wooden shutters, which are opened and closed at pleasure.

	Ft.	In.	
The dimensions of the day-rooms are .	19	5	long.
„ „	7	8	wide.
The day-cells are	7	8	long.
„ „	7	5	wide.
The night-cells are	7	8	long.
„ „	5	8	wide.

There is one dark room and one bath.

The cells are not heated. Two infirmaries were originally prepared, one for males the other for females. One only is now kept up, and is used for either sex; while the other is used as a bed-room for the gaoler's family.

Management.—The keeper has been here about 22 years. Until about a year since the offenders admitted here were for comparatively slight cases; they formerly only came hither for and from the sessions, but now they receive some assize cases; at present two such are here, one for passing bad money, the other for forged notes. Escapes are, consequently, more likely to be attempted.

When a prisoner is not at hard labour, he is generally kept in his day-cell during four hours at a time; he usually takes his meals in the day-rooms; and during the rest of the day he takes exercise in the yards. One set is locked up while another is taking exercise. Those sentenced by court to solitary confinement are locked up during the whole day, except two hours for exercise.

Soap is not allowed, but a pound for each prisoner is generally charged every quarter. No fixed quantity of coals is ordered; they are only used in the day-rooms in winter.

Solitary confinement is sometimes practised for a month at a time.

Tobacco is not allowed. Silence is maintained in some degree.

The behaviour of the prisoners is generally pretty good.

No money is given here to prisoners on their discharge, which is a harsh measure, tending to restore a prisoner sometimes to his old means, ways, and associates. Enough should always be supplied to maintain a prisoner for two days, at least, in order that he may have time to seek an honest employment.

Diet.—Untried prisoners may receive food from without, and at the same time may also obtain the prison diet. 1½ lb. of the best bread is allowed daily to all (the present price of this loaf is 2¾*d.*); at the end of the first month all receive daily 1½ lb. of potatoes; and, at the same period, all receive daily 1½ oz. of oatmeal, which will make about a quart of gruel. Those on hard labour receive the potatoes and oatmeal from their first admission. Half an ounce of salt is allowed daily to all. Prisoners in solitary confinement receive the full diet if they have been previously put upon it.

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.
Chaplain	80	0	0
Surgeon (including medicines)	15	0	0
Gaoler (receives coals and candles, but finds paper, pens, and ink)	75	0	0
Matron	15	0	0
Turnkey (receives coals and candles)	40	0	0

Labour.—There is no particular work appointed for boys. The women are employed to wash, mend, and make shirts and shifts, and their own dresses. There is some occasional employment in shoemaking or tailoring. The hours for work are from eight in the morning till six, in the summer, and from nine to four, in the winter. The prisoners are locked up during summer at seven o'clock, and in winter at half-past four; they are unlocked at six in summer, and at sunrise in winter. The hard labour is the crank-mill. The crank is at present employed to split beans, or to grind barley or peas; but it is not in good repair, and is not now in use for grinding corn: it holds three men at once. The men break stones occasionally; and very rarely pick oakum; the last they have not done for three years.

Punishments.—There have been only four punishments from 24th October 1835 to 1st July 1837. The punishment for women is sometimes confinement in a day cell, and feeding them upon bread and water only. Such cases are not always entered into the punishment register. The men are placed in a dark cell for three days, and receive only bread and water.

Recommittals.—Of the 15 prisoners now in the prison, two men have been committed hither once before, and one man five times.

Visits to prisoners under sentence can only be made by order of a visiting or committing magistrate. An officer is always present.

Letters.—All may be sent out and may enter, but are read by the gaoler.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain does duty twice on Sundays, delivering one sermon. On Wednesdays he reads prayers, instructs the prisoners, and hears them read. He occasionally comes at other times to visit them. He administers the sacrament at stated times, and sometimes offers to deliver it to a prisoner besides, but has never been asked to deliver it but once during 10 years. He has met with three prisoners who had before received the sacrament. He generally finds the prisoners very ignorant of religious subjects. The chaplain lives about two miles and a-half from here. He has no other duty. About two years since the chaplain's salary was raised from 40*l.* to 80*l.*; before that time Divine service was performed only once on Sundays; but since that time he instructs the prisoners, who are much benefited, and behave more orderly; some have learnt to read, and others are greatly improved. No schoolmaster, receiving a salary, has ever been employed to instruct the prisoners. The cases which come in from the neighbourhood are usually trifling. There are several poachers in the winter, but now only one. There are four vagrants here at present.

The chapel is cold and dark in winter; several doors open into it. It would be improved by being raised to the level of the gallery floor.

The chaplain recollects one case of permanent reformation of character in an individual who was discharged from the prison, and whom he had the means of observing for a long time subsequently. There are several books in the committee-room; but they are rather scanty in the cells and day-rooms.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon resides at Newnham, about two miles off. He visits twice or thrice in the week; and if any particular case of illness occurs he comes every day. He is always present whenever a prisoner receives the punishment of whipping. He keeps a journal. On the day on which I visited this prison there were three prisoners receiving medicine. No one kept his bed with influenza in the spring. There were no deaths from malignant cholera; but there were three ill with it at the same time. There were no deaths in 1836, nor in 1837 up to my visit. Since the prison has been opened there have been only two deaths, one of which was by suicide. During 22 years there have been about two women who have lain in here; both survived. No insane prisoner is confined here at present.

Suicide.—During 15 years one prisoner committed suicide by hanging himself with the strings of his small clothes; he was found dead when the cell was unlocked in the morning.

Fire.—No alarm from this cause is recollected.

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
From Michaelmas sessions 1835 to Epiphany 1836	51	13	9½
„ Epiphany to Easter	71	15	9
„ Easter to Trinity	45	15	2½
„ Trinity to Michaelmas	63	6	11
„ Michaelmas to Epiphany 1837	74	12	0¼
„ Epiphany to Easter	74	11	10¾
„ Easter to Trinity	53	0	10½

Profits from Labour.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Profits made up for the year ending October 1831	8	15	6½
,, ,, 1832	6	9	1
,, ,, 1833	7	1	11½
,, ,, 1834	2	13	11
,, ,, 1835	2	10	9

The mill has latterly been out of order, which appears to be the cause of the decreased profit.

Escapes.—During 15 years one prisoner escaped, but was retaken; and in 22 years two prisoners escaped, both were retaken. Several have made similar attempts, but have not succeeded.

Since the period of my visit two prisoners are said to have escaped at night.

Bedding.—The allowance to each individual consists of two sheets, a rug with a blanke attached to it, two blankets, a hair mattress, and a straw mat below. The sheets are washed monthly.

Clothing.—None is given to the untried, unless they are destitute. The convicted receive a party-coloured dress: the men, a cap, jacket, trowsers, waistcoat, shirts, stockings, and clogs, (which last are made at home); the women, a cap, jacket, petticoats, shifts, stockings, aprons, stays, handkerchief, and clogs. The body linen is changed weekly.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Proportion of married and single now in the prison:—Of the 15 prisoners six male prisoners are married, and one female prisoner is married.

No. II.—Average number of prisoners is 13½.

No. III.—Number of admissions from the year 1791 to the year 1837:—From the opening of the prison on 18th November 1791 up to July 1837 the sum total of prisoners admitted has been 2,391. From 1791 to July 1815 the number admitted had been only 410.

No. IV.—The number of prisoners in gaol at the time of my visit, 1st July 1837, were two male prisoners for trial at the assizes and one female; 10 men who were under sentence and two women. There are no debtors here. Total number of prisoners, 12 men and 3 women.

No. V.—Greatest number of prisoners confined here at once:—During 15 years the greatest number at one time has been 32. During about three successive days of that space of time there has not been even one prisoner.

No. VI.—Registration and Account-books:—

1. Chaplain's journal.
2. Surgeon's journal.
3. Punishments' register.
4. Order-book.
5. Keeper's book.
6. Visiting-magistrate's book.
7. Prison register.
8. Bread-book.
9. Cash-book.
10. Mill-book.

No. VII.—Store of bedding and clothing:—

Of bedding, 21 sets, not in very good order.
Of clothing for male prisoners, 15 sets.
Iron bedsteads, 25.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To close up with wood the first six or eight bars on each side of the two yards, next to the entrance, in order to prevent the prisoners from seeing those who enter and go out.
2. To enjoin silence. The gaoler has never received any such order from the magistrates.
3. To give a small sum to prisoners on their discharge, in order to enable them to reach their home, or to support them during their search after employment for the period of two days.
4. A night-stool is wanted in the infirmary.
5. One infirmary is now not appropriated to its original purpose, but is used as a bed-room for the keeper's family. It would be advantageous to restore it to its destination, and, if necessary, to accommodate the keeper in some other way.
6. A better room would be desirable for the turnkey; he sleeps in the store-room, which is close, and otherwise unfit.
7. The supply of books should be improved.
8. The supply of combs is insufficient for cleanliness.
9. Some of the pumps appear out of repair.

10. Some new bedding is wanted.

11. The day-cells might be used as night-cells when there are more prisoners than there are night-cells.

12. A small tread-wheel would be useful; but in that case another turnkey would be necessary.

13. The lodges might be rendered drier by enlarging the windows, and thus admitting more light and air.

14. A considerable improvement might be effected by raising the floor of the chapel to a level with its present gallery, instead of being on the ground as now. The old seats would still be serviceable, more light and warmth would be obtained, and space would be gained on the ground-floor for a turnkey's room and a store-room. In case a store-room was thus gained, the old existing store-room might be used as an infirmary. At present the two infirmary rooms for males and females adjoin each other, with only a thin partition: it would be proper to separate these two rooms.

NORTHLEACH.—County House of Correction.

Northleach. County House of Correction.

Construction.—A canal intersects the prison yards; it was covered with green matter at the time of my visit in the summer, but it is affirmed to do no harm, and to be useful for water, of which they stand in need. The cells are light, roomy, and well-ventilated generally; and they are numerous in proportion to the inmates. There is a room for persons suffering under itch, and baths for both sexes. The infirmary for men is a good one, and a good convalescent room adjoins it; but there is no night-stool nor water-closet. For the women, also, there is a good infirmary; but the removal of a few inches of the upper part of the external iron blind would admit more air. No night-stool nor water-closet is to be found in this room. There is one dark cell, in which the refractory of both sexes are placed; but it is not sufficiently ventilated. Another cell, originally destined for the same purpose, has been appropriated as a sleeping-cell, because it was found to be too comfortable for punishment. This prison contains cells for day and night (see General Statistics, No. X.); but, under the actual system of discipline, the day-cells might be converted into night-cells, whenever there is not a sufficient supply of the latter. The day-cells are light and of good size. The windows do not open in the upper male cells. There are no prisoners in wards 1 and 4, nor in debtors' yard 3.

Management.—Silence is moderately observed; tobacco is prohibited. No untried prisoners remain here longer than a few days. The premises are clean and neat. Besides the keeper and matron, there is only one turnkey, properly so called; there is another officer, the miller. Both of these are appointed by the magistrates; both sleep in the prison. A wardsman is constantly present during the hours of labour, but this is of no use; a turnkey should also be constantly present, if any order or silence are to be maintained; as there is only one regular turnkey here, it is found difficult or impossible to place him always in the labour-yard. The plan pursued here is to place prisoners in the day-cells during the intervals of labour and during the hours of meals, and to consign them to other cells at night. Convicted prisoners, who are not sentenced to hard labour, are also confined in their day-cells, except during the hours of labour. The quantity of exercise in the yards allowed to prisoners on hard labour is one hour and a-half on Sundays; while those not sentenced to hard labour are permitted to walk in the yards for one hour and a-half, or even more, daily. The trades which now happen to be carried on in the prison are of one shoemaker and one tailor. No prisoners sleep more than one in a bed; but all do not sleep in separate cells. All the women are at present placed in one ward, both the convicted and the debtors. There are no untried females here.

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.
Gaoler (has also coals and candles)	100	0	0
Matron	29	0	0
Turnkey (weekly)	0	14	0
Miller (weekly)	0	16	0
(Both the last have coals and candles.)			
Chaplain	80	0	0
Surgeon (finds medicines)	30	0	0

The keeper is allowed to purchase articles for the prison of any tradesmen whom he chooses.

Diet.—The untried prisoners, and all those who are not sentenced to hard labour, receive only a loaf of 1½ lb. of good seconds' bread daily, and nothing else whatever. Those who are confined for want of sureties may receive food from without. Prisoners sentenced to hard labour obtain the same allowance of bread and the following additional provision:—1 oz. of oatmeal to make gruel for breakfast, daily; 2 lbs. of potatoes for dinner on four days of the week; for another day's dinner 2 ozs. of oatmeal and 1 oz. of rice made into gruel; and for dinner on the two remaining days half a pint of pea-soup, into the composition of which, shin of beef or cow's cheek, or sheep's head and pluck has entered. The quantity of meat is not fixed; but all that is used is divided as equally as possible among the respective portions. Only the prisoners on hard labour receive ¼ oz. of salt for breakfast, and again at dinner. The debtors receive 3*d.* a-day, and may obtain food from without. Convicted prisoners, not sentenced to hard labour, often petition for it, in order to obtain the extra food.

Labour.—The tread-mill is applied to the purpose of grinding corn for the public, and forms the hard labour for the male prisoners. It will contain 12 persons. The other occu-

pations are occasional tailoring, shoemaking, and washing; all the washing is done within the walls. Soap is supplied without limitation.

The Clothing consists of cap, jacket, waistcoat, trousers, shoes, stockings, and shirt, for the men; and, for the women, comprises cap, shift, shoes, stockings, short gown, and two petticoats. The dress of the convicted is party-coloured. There is an ample stock.

The Bedding consists of a hair mattress, two blankets, two sheets, and a coverlit. There is a sufficient store.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs Divine service on Sunday, with a sermon, and reads portions of the Liturgy twice a-week, on Wednesdays and Fridays. The behaviour of the prisoners during the service is exemplary. He has never delivered the sacrament, nor, indeed, has it ever been delivered here to his knowledge, nor is there any communion table or plate. Very few prisoners have much religious knowledge; some he has known to possess a general notion. He has ascertained one case of reform; but he seldom possesses the means of discovering the future condition of discharged prisoners. The boys he teaches to read; and he has imparted this instruction to about 18. He converses with prisoners in their cells, and hears them read. There exists no ladies' committee for the purpose of visiting the female prisoners. The chaplain has exercised his functions here during the space of six years. He enters in his journal the number of prisoners present. Books are moderately well supplied; the chaplain has the power of ordering them. The chaplain is curate of a neighbouring parish, a quarter of a mile from Northleach. There is no chaplain's room. The chapel contains only two divisions, one for men and one for women. The gaoler is generally present at chapel, and the turnkey and miller are always present.

Visits and Letters are only admitted by an order from the committing magistrates, except to prisoners for want of sureties. There is no special rule respecting letters; but they are seldom permitted during the first three months, and are always read by the keeper.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—(See General Statistics, No. IV.) The surgeon keeps a copious journal; but it does not afford any tabular view of the diseases which have occurred during the year. There is no surgery room. During the last 12 months it has been only necessary to remove one man into the infirmary; he was about 70 years of age, with sore legs, and recovered. The prison is healthy. The surgeon has been in office one year and a-half, during which time he has witnessed no bad effect from the canal; no ague has occurred. There is one woman now in the infirmary with the itch. No woman has lain in here during his appointment. Diarrhœa is seen here occasionally; itch and syphilis occur also sometimes. The surgeon has been assured that individuals at Cheltenham have occasionally committed an offence in order to be brought into this establishment, to which they look forward for an economical cure of their venereal disorders. He has occasionally ordered gruel, night or morning, for those prisoners who have not the hard-labour diet; but prisoners remain here a very short term: two months is the longest sentence of any prisoner now in the house. He has seen no bad effect from the present diet; but a similar diet has undoubtedly in other places produced bad results. There was no cholera here. Only two slight cases of influenza occurred in the spring.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To have an additional turnkey.
2. To build privies in the yards which are at present without them.
3. To use the day-cells as night-cells whenever it may happen that there is not a separate sleeping-cell for each prisoner.
4. To increase the present scale of diet to those prisoners who are not sentenced to hard labour.
5. To place a nightstool in each of the infirmaries.
6. Those prisoners who are placed in solitary confinement for any term exceeding three days ought to have a more ample diet than bread and water.
7. To take off to the depth of three inches from the iron blind of the female infirmary, in order to favour the access of light and air.

Registration and Account-books.

1. Chaplain's journal.
2. Surgeon's.
3. Visiting magistrates'.
4. Cash-book.
5. Book of extra food for hard-labour prisoners.
6. Bread-book.
7. Governor's journal of occurrences.
8. Stock-book.
9. Soap-book.
10. Punishment-book.
11. Prison register.
12. Grist-book and two sketch-books.
13. Order-book.
14. Index-book and register.

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Gloucestershire.

Northleach. County House of Correction.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Expenditure (including all salaries, excepting chaplain's and surgeon's) during four late quarters of 1836-7 :—

	£.	s.	d.
Quarter ending 13th October 1836	81	7	9¾
„ 29th December 1836	120	1	2
„ 6th April 1837	129	15	1
„ 22d June 1837	80	16	9¾

No. II.—Escapes :—There has been only one attempt during the four years of the gaoler's charge; it was unsuccessful.

No. III.—Suicide :—During the same time two or three attempts have occurred; all failed. One man tried to hang himself, and another to drown himself in the canal.

No. IV.—Deaths :—

During 1836	None.
„ 1835	2*
„ 1834	None.
„ 1833	None.

From 1st January 1837 to 28th June of the same year no death has occurred.

No. IV. (B.)—Statement of the Number and Description of Prisoners confined at the date of my visit, 28th June 1837 :—

Male debtor	1	All placed in one ward.
For want of sureties	2	
Males on hard labour	21	
For non-payment of penalties	8	
Female prisoner, idle and disorderly	1	
Total number	33	

Of whom 15 were recommitted.

No. V.—Profits of four years in grinding corn (tread-mill labour) :—

	£.	s.	d.
1833	35	1	9
1834	37	4	5
1835	22	3	11
1836	28	10	5¼

No. VI.—Punishments from 22d July 1820 to this time are 89.

No. VII.—

The number of the classes of prisoners is	5
The average number of prisoners is	34
The greatest number at once in 1836 was	65

No. VIII.—Progressive View of the Number of Prisoners committed in successive years :—

In 1832 were committed hither	413
1833 „	415
1834 „	442
1835 „	388
1836 „	330
1837, up to this time, 28th June 1837	150

No. IX.—Number of Cells :—

(*For the male prisoners.*)

Single cells of all kinds	62
Of which are used as day-cells	21
„ night-cells	41
Day-rooms (in debtors' ward)	1
Yards	5
Wards	5

* One of which was an old man who died a few days after admission. The verdict of the coroner's inquest was—"Death from natural debility."

(*For the females.*)

Day-rooms	1
Wards	2
Yards	2
Day-cells	4
Night-cells	13

No. X.—Lunatics:—There is no lunatic confined here at present.

TEWKESBURY.—Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Tewkesbury. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—There are two yards and no day-rooms at all. There are seven sleeping cells and one dark cell: there is also another cell, which forms a passage, and which might be used either as a day-room or as a sleeping cell. In no cell do more than three prisoners sleep. The greatest defect is the absence of a proper ward for the female prisoners. Most of the cells are light and large enough to read in and to work in conveniently. The dark cell is ill ventilated; it seems never to be used for punishment; but night charges are placed there. One cell, called solitary, forms one of the seven sleeping cells above enumerated. The prison has a boundary wall, and is not overlooked.

Management.—The keeper is serjeant of the new police of this town: he derives no salary as such. His salary, as keeper, is 55*l.* per annum, and he obtains also coals, soap, and candles. His wife acts as matron; but she does not appear to have received any orders to that effect from the magistrates, and she has no salary. Night charges are admitted here. There is no station house nor lock-up house; at least, none in use except this prison. There are some written rules, but no printed ones. The gaoler has received no fees since his appointment. Debtors are admitted here, but they come very rarely. This prison is entirely under the control of the town council. In one cell, I found one wooden bedstead, and three men sleeping on it, with two mattrasses and two rugs. Tobacco is not allowed. Silence is not enforced. Two visiting magistrates have been appointed by the town council. The prisoners take their meals in their cells.

The treasurer has received only 18*s.* 9*d.*, as the profits of the prisoners' labour, from Easter 1836 up to 1st September 1837.

On 27th June 1837, at the time of my visit, there were 11 prisoners, of whom 3 were for trial, 2 of whom were males and one a female: 8 were convicted from the borough sessions, they were all males. The county magistrates do not commit any prisoners hither. One prisoner, committed for stabbing, has been sent to the prison at Gloucester. The greatest number of prisoners, for some time past, has been 15, of whom 1 was a woman. The smallest number was 5; the ordinary number is about 5 or 6. 75 prisoners have been placed here since 1st January 1837, out of whom 29 appear to have been for night charges.

Rules.—Letters are all read by the keeper: there is no other restriction as to letters; all may enter, and all may be sent out. No visits are allowed to the convicted prisoners, except by an order from the magistrates.

Diet.—The prisoners receive 1½ lb. of bread, of the second quality, daily. They have, for breakfast, 1½ oz. of oatmeal, seasoned with salt and pepper, made into rather more than a pint of gruel. For dinner, on Sundays and Thursdays, they have 12 oz. of beef, without bone, and weighed before it is dressed, and 1 lb. of potatoes. On Mondays and Fridays they have ¼ of a pint of peas made into soup with the liquor of the beef, seasoned with pepper or ginger; on Tuesdays, 2 lbs. of vegetables, or ½ lb. of cheese; on Wednesdays, 1½ oz. of rice, 1½ oz. of oatmeal, and ½ oz. of salt, made into broth, with seasoning of pepper or ginger; and on Saturdays, the dinner is ¼ lb. of cheese. The above diet is for the house of correction. Those who are committed to the common gaol receive only 1½ lb. of bread: the written rule also allows them 1*d.* per day, but this has been withdrawn. The untried may receive food from their friends. If the debtors are poor, they may receive the bread-allowance only. No spirituous liquors are admitted for any one.

Labour.—There is a crank-mill here, at which four prisoners can work at the same time. The prisoners clean the prison, and perform any job which may be desired. The women sometimes wash and sometimes sew; the matron also washes. The crank-mill is not applied to any profitable purpose.

Clothing.—Convicts have a party-coloured dress; they have a shirt, stockings, shoes, jacket, waistcoat, and trousers. For the female convicts, a cap, handkerchief, gown, petticoat, shift, stockings, and shoes are provided. The untried have no dress found for them: the gaoler lately gave some of his own to an untried prisoner.

Bedding.—Consists, nominally, of a mattrass, two blankets, a rug, and two sheets. The stock is very insufficient.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs Divine service and preaches a sermon on Sundays: he does not attend upon week-days: he receives no salary, and acts voluntarily as chaplain: he has no other duty. He lately sent 12 Bibles and some Prayer-books for the use of the prisoners.

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Gloucestershire.

Tewkesbury. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Registration and Account-books.

[In the rule-book, an entry of the punishments is made.]
The keeper's account-book with the tradesmen.
Prison register. There are no other books kept here.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon attends whenever he is sent for: he is generally present when a new prisoner is searched. Since September 1836, there have been about four cases from illness, in which the prisoners have been confined to their beds. Not any of the prisoners suffered from the influenza in the spring. No death has occurred since September. The surgeon receives payment for the medicines.

Suicide.—There has been no attempt to commit suicide.

Fire.—No alarm from fire has occurred since September.

Escapes.—No successful attempt has occurred during the gaoler's residence.

Number and Description of Committals from Easter 1836 to 1st September 1837.

Charged with Felony, shoplifting, and thefts of various descriptions	70
Receiving stolen goods	1
Assaults, and obstructing the police in the execution of their duty	48
Drunkenness and disorderly behaviour	70
Leaving their families chargeable to the parish	5
Misbehaviour in the house of industry	9
Leaving their masters' employment	4
Embezzlement	1
Uttering counterfeit coin	4
Hawking spirits without a licence	2
Malicious injury to property	1
For debt	3
Non-payment of poor rates	1
As vagrants	14
Deserters	2
Total	235

Expenditure, from Easter Sessions 1836 to 1st September 1837.

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
The keeper, half a year, to Midsummer 1836 [N.B.—11*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* of this was due at the closing of the last account.]	22	12	6			
Matron and laundress, one quarter, to Midsummer 1836	3	15	0			
Keeper, one quarter, to Michaelmas 1836	11	5	0			
Matron for washing, ditto	2	10	0			
Keeper, 11 months, to 1st September 1837	41	5	0			
Matron for washing, ditto	9	3	4			
				90	10	10
Daily pence to prisoners in common gaol, to Michaelmas 1836, when discontinued				1	0	10

Provisions, &c.

Bread	48	17	3			
Meat	17	18	9			
Oatmeal	5	1	9			
Peas	1	19	3			
Potatoes	5	7	10			
Cheese	3	10	5			
Sugar and other groceries	4	19	11			
Coals	23	18	2			
Mops, brooms, soap, and candles	12	4	2			
Bedding and clothing	30	0	0			
Three iron bedsteads	8	5	0			
Medicine and medical attendance	11	18	9			
Wine, &c., for sick prisoners	0	2	8			
Repairs, including a new alarm bell, and fixing the same	27	13	2			
Bibles, books, and stationery	2	5	2			
Washing tubs, buckets, and kitchen utensils	3	10	5			
Shaving and hair cutting	1	12	6			
Earthenware, and sundry small articles	1	9	5			
				210	14	7
Total				302	6	3

General Statistics.

No. I.—Progressive State of the Commitments.

The prison register begins on 17th November 1815; from which day to the end of that year one prisoner only was committed.

In 1816	9	In 1827	69
1817	62	1828	93
1818	122	1829	160
1819	87	1830	30
1820	68	1831	114
1821	60	1832	83
1822	55	1833	89
1823	75	1834	64
1824	96	1835	59
1825	66	1836	147
1826	80		

Solitary Confinement.—The longest time that this has been practised, during the gaoler's knowledge, has been seven days.

Punishments.—There appear to have been 21 since the year 1818. One was in 1836, when the culprit was put in irons.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. It should not be a lock-up house for night charges.
2. A matron should be appointed, should receive a salary, and should have her duties defined in writing.
3. New rules are required, and among them should appear a precise and strict arrangement respecting letters and visits.
4. The untried prisoners should receive some augmentation of diet, as, for instance, potatoes and gruel daily.
5. A screen is wanting in the chapel in order to conceal the women from the observation of the other prisoners.
6. A separate ward for the female prisoners is particularly necessary.
7. An infirmary room should be fitted up for each sex, and a bath or bathing-tub should be provided.
8. There is no suitable place for searching prisoners.
9. To enjoin silence.
10. To provide journal-books for the visiting magistrates, the surgeon, and the chaplain.
11. To provide more bedsteads and more bedding: there is not enough at present for all the prisoners.
12. It would be very desirable to confine the gaoler entirely to his duties in the prison, which require all his attention; on this account his office as police serjeant is an inconvenient burthen.
13. The prison should be enlarged; it will be scarcely possible to maintain good discipline there within its present contracted dimensions.

HAMPSHIRE.

Hampshire.

Expenditure on Prisons and Prisoners during the last year, as published by the County Treasurer:—

The County Gaol.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Conveying prisoners	225	10	8
Prosecutions at the assizes	1,075	3	1
Ditto at the sessions	1,144	7	2
Prisoners' maintenance (exclusive of bread supplied by the bridewell)	152	17	5
Ordinary repairs	229	10	11
Salaries to governor, turnkeys, &c.	585	0	0
Salaries to chaplain and surgeon	375	0	0
Governor's bill of cravings	148	12	5
Insurance of gaol	25	0	0
Clerk of assize	103	10	0
Under-sheriff	32	4	0
Clerk of the peace	85	12	2
Printing and stationery	55	10	1
Interest on gaol bonds	211	10	0
	4,449	7	11

	£.	s.	d.
The County Bridewell.			
Conveying prisoners	407	13	6
Prisoners' maintenance	464	2	5
Ordinary repairs	127	8	5
Wheat	538	5	0
Salaries	410	0	0
Bridewell keeper's bill of cravings	132	11	5
Bridewell keeper's and turnkeys' share of prisoners' earnings	175	1	1
Printing and stationery	2	14	4
Rent of lodge	9	9	0
Interest on bridewell bonds	27	0	0
Clerk of the peace	24	11	2
	2,318	16	4
Gosport Bridewell.			
Prisoners' maintenance	65	4	10
Salaries to bridewell keeper, turnkey, matron, chaplain, and surgeon	310	0	0
Bridewell keeper's bill of cravings	76	5	5
Ordinary repairs	13	9	4
	464	19	7
Odiham Bridewell.			
Printing and stationery	5	13	0
Prisoners' maintenance	13	10	2
Salaries to bridewell keeper and matron	45	0	0
Bridewell keeper's bill of cravings	14	11	3
Ordinary repairs	144	13	9
	223	8	2
Basingstoke Bridewell.			
One year's allowance for maintenance of prisoners	10	0	0

ANDOVER.—BOROUGH GAOL.

Andover. Borough Gaol.

Construction.—This prison is small, inconvenient, and insecure; only fitted for a lock-up house. There are only three cells; one is upon the ground-floor, which contains two beds and a privy. There are two cells on the first floor. There is only one yard, with a garden of some space attached to it. There is ample room for enlarging the premises, and for forming a separate yard for the male and female prisoners. The whole establishment is totally unsuited for the purpose of imprisonment.

Management.—Prisoners for hard labour and for long terms of imprisonment are sent to Winchester. There are no printed nor written rules. The prisoners remain all day in their cells, except when they go to the privy: this confinement arises from the insecurity of the yard. The only punishments are the putting on hand-cuffs and reduction of diet. No order has been made respecting a matron; but the gaoler's wife acts as such. She washes whatever is necessary for the prisoners, and does not even receive soap for the performance of this work. The gaoler has been in office since 1813, when the prison was built. The county magistrates use this prison as a county lock-up house by leave of the town council.

Escapes.—There have been two escapes since the year 1813; neither prisoner was retaken.

Visits.—Visits are always made in the presence of the gaoler or of his family; to prisoners after trial they can only be made by an order from the magistrates.

Letters.—All letters are read by the gaoler.

Diet.—All the prisoners are allowed 4*d.* a-day, out of which sum the gaoler purchases for them such food as they may choose. The allowance was formerly 6*d.* daily. The untried may receive food from their friends without, and the convicted also, but only by order of the magistrates. No spirits are permitted. Blankets and rugs alone are supplied by the town council for the purpose of bedding.

Salary.—The gaoler receives only 10*l.* a-year; he supplies the mattresses, for which he formerly received 10*s.* a-quarter, which sum has been discontinued since the commencement of the year 1836. He also receives the accidental emoluments of town-crier and bill-sticker. He obtains no coals nor candles.

Religious and other Instruction.—There is no chaplain. Occasional service was formerly performed by the vicar and the curate; but this has not been the case for the last quarter of a-year. There is no chapel.

Labour.—For the last year and a-half there has been none here. Formerly the prisoners used sometimes to be set to pick oakum. They are occasionally allowed to work at their own trade.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—When a surgeon is wanted, the gaoler applies to a magistrate for an order. He recollects no death, nor any attempt at suicide since 1813.

General Statistics.

View of the progress of the Population:—

		Men.	Women.
The number admitted in	1832 was	50	12
,,	1833 was	35	6
,,	1834 was	38	7
,,	1835 was	37	9
From 1st January 1837 to 1st June 1837 were admitted		27	8

The number of Prisoners in confinement here at the date of my visit, 1st June 1837, was three male prisoners, of whom one was untried and two were convicted.

The greatest number of Prisoners confined here at one time, from 1st January 1837 to 1st June 1837, was five male prisoners and three female prisoners. The five male prisoners were placed together in one cell, and the three female prisoners were distributed in two cells. The gaoler does not recollect a greater number than the above to have been confined here at once for some time past.

The greatest number of days during which any prisoner has remained here, from the 1st of January 1837 to the 1st of June 1837, was in the instance of one female who was confined here from the 4th of January to the 3d of March 1837; but I believe that this was an unusual length of stay.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. This prison requires to be enlarged.
2. There should be a yard both for the male and female prisoners; the single yard which exists at present is not sufficiently secure. If the wall were raised it would become available for one prisoner at a time to take exercise in.
3. The salary of the gaoler should be increased, and he should be thus relieved in the occupation of crier and bill-sticker, so that his whole attention might be devoted to the prison. For the same reason it would be desirable, if possible, that he should not be employed to conduct prisoners to Winchester.
4. The gaoler should not be allowed to supply any part of the bedding himself; and his wife should be paid for washing the clothes and bedding.
5. A supply of books is wanting.
6. Although the number of prisoners is usually very small, it is still desirable that some means of religious instruction should be provided.
7. The allowance of salt and soap should be made for each prisoner.
8. An order should be made that the female prisoners should be exclusively attended by one of their own sex; and a small salary should be allotted to the gaoler's wife on condition that she acts as matron.
9. A lock-up house should be made distinct from the prison, so that night charges may not be placed in the prisoners' cells.
10. A small store of clothing should be supplied for the use of the destitute.
11. A fixed diet should be substituted instead of the allowance in money.

BASINGSTOKE.—Lock-up House.

Basingstoke. Lock-up House.

This building was formerly the town gaol, although on a scale far too limited to merit such an appellation. It lies by the side of a public thoroughfare, and contains only the apartments of the keeper, and two cells, one for males, the other for females. Each cell has a privy, but the female cell does not appear to have been used for some time. There is no yard properly so called, but only a small space about half the size of an ordinary cell, in which the prisoner may walk; this, however, is not a point of any importance, since prisoners do not usually remain here more than one night, unless when brought in on the Saturday evening, in which case they remain during the nights of both Saturday and Sunday. The cases which are admitted here are generally breaches of the peace, and they are taken up for examination every day, except Sunday, before the mayor or other magistrate.

The keeper of this lock-up house resides on the spot, and is the serjeant of police. As serjeant of police he receives 15*s.* a-week, and he derives no other advantage from the office of keeper besides the residence which is here allotted to it. The allowance of food for each prisoner is half a quartern loaf a-day: 1 lb. of meat, with potatoes, was formerly allowed twice a-week if a prisoner made any stay within the walls. The town finds straw for bedding, but there is also a small stock of blankets and rugs, which the keeper supplies to those who pass here more than one night; he lends soap and towels when required.

The present keeper has been 15 months in office, during which time the greatest number of prisoners at one time was 5; they were sent hither for creating a disturbance at the time of the fair. The total number of prisoners confined here from the 5th of June 1836 to the 2d of June 1837 was 62, of whom 11 were females; on the day of my visit, 2d of June 1837, I found one young man confined here, who had just come in. There has been no death here since the present keeper has occupied the house, nor has he ever had occasion to solicit the aid of the parochial surgeon, which he would have done if any case of illness had occurred. Some white-washing is necessary.

The prisoners who are committed from this town to the county prison at Winchester are conducted thither by one of the policemen, of whom there are two in addition to the serjeant.

GOSPORT.—County House of Correction.

Construction.—This prison lies on the public highway, but is not overlooked by any other building. There is no boundary wall, and articles are sometimes thrown over. Part of the building is old, and the better and more commodious portion is new. The new cells are light and large enough for separate confinement, provided that the prisoner were taken out daily to the tread-wheel, or to take exercise in the yard, for a certain time, daily.

The number of cells for men is 20,
for the women is 5.
Receiving rooms or cells, 1.
Divisions in the chapel, 4.
Infirmaries or rooms for the sick, none.
Warm and cold baths, or bathing-tubs, 1.
Airing yards, 4.
Refractory cells, light ones, 2.
Wards or divisions in the prison, 4.
Day-rooms, 4.
Number of prisoners the prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping cells, 25.
Number of prisoners the prison is capable of containing where more than one prisoner sleeps in one cell, 33.
All the cells are properly single cells, but occasionally three men, or two or three women, have been placed together in one cell.

Management.—The rules were printed in 1822. Besides the keeper there is only one turnkey and the matron. The keeper's daughter acts at present as matron, since the death of her mother; she is extremely young for the office. The untried associate together, but there are few prisoners of that description. No rule has as yet been issued for the observance of silence. Every prisoner at present is sleeping in a separate cell, nor, since the 1st of January 1837, has more than one prisoner slept in a cell. Those who are committed to solitary confinement are locked up in separate cells during the whole day, except during the space of about 20 minutes, which is allowed to them for exercise; they are occasionally visited by the chaplain and surgeon. The other prisoners take their meals in the day-rooms. Out of 16 male prisoners whom I found here on 7th June 1837, six were placed in solitary confinement. The females are exclusively attended by one of their own sex. The greater part of the prisoners are sent here for misdemeanours; several are soldiers. Visits are only permitted once in three months, and letters are not admitted except in slight cases, and they are then previously read by the gaoler.

Tobacco is forbidden. Solitary confinement is used as a punishment for the refractory. The chief offences committed within the prison are neglect of labour, and talking during labour. The greatest trouble which occurs here is occasioned by the soldiers.

Prisoners take exercise in the yard singly; there is a verbal order, which allows the prisoners in solitary cells to take exercise and to wash during the space of from 20 to 30 minutes, daily. All the prisoners are locked up soon after sunset. The gaoler or turnkey is always present during visits.

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.
Keeper (has coals)	100	0	0
Chaplain	100	0	0
Surgeon and medicines	30	0	0
Matron	20	0	0
One male turnkey (has coals)	40	0	0

Diet.—Every prisoner receives daily 1½ lb. of the best bread, and a pint of warm oatmeal gruel every morning, which is prepared by a male prisoner in a copper in the vagrants' yard. Each prisoner receives also 1 lb. of meat (including bone) and half a gallon of potatoes during the week. Beef and potatoes are cooked in each yard by a wardsman, and the gaoler sees the articles served out. The bread and meat are contracted for.

The meals are taken at half-past 8 and at half-past 12.

Coals are sent in when required by the gaoler; they are burnt in the day-rooms all the year round for the purpose of cooking. Combs and towels are allowed. The prisoners shave themselves; a razor is supplied to them on one day in the week.

Clothing is only supplied to the destitute. The bedding consists of a straw mattrass, two blankets, and a coverlit.

The officers pay 6*d.* daily for each soldier confined.

Labour.—Consists in a capstan-mill for those sentenced to hard labour; its power is not applied to any purpose.

The capstan will hold eight men; when there are more present they place them double. They work in silence, and the gaoler or turnkey are always present during the hours of labour.

White-washing and cleaning the prison supply another form of labour, and the women are employed in washing and in mending.

The hours of labour are 9 daily in summer, and 6 in winter. There is no profit from the labour.

The following was the proportion of prisoners employed and unemployed from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836 :—

Prisoners at hard labour, 15.
Prisoners at employment, not being hard labour, 3.
Prisoners not employed, 2.

Fire.—There has been no alarm from this source during the last four years and a-half.

Religious and other Instruction.—The gaoler and turnkey are always present at chapel, and the matron also, if there is any woman present. There is no singing in the chapel. The chaplain performs Divine service twice, and delivers a sermon every Sunday. On Thursdays he reads prayers, and on Tuesdays he visits the prisoners who are placed in solitary confinement, and also the wards; he comes at other times when particular cases appear to him to require his presence. He delivers the sacrament when he is requested to do so by the prisoners; this has happened five or six times in 15 years. There is no schoolmaster; but the chaplain examines the prisoners as to their proficiency in reading, hears them read lessons, and appoints some prisoner to teach the others. He keeps a private journal as well as a public one, and the prisoners are attentive in their deportment towards him. Books are moderately well supplied; there are many tracts. The chaplain has no other public duty except that which is connected with the prison. He has occasionally received letters from prisoners after their discharge expressive of gratitude. The chaplain has known one instance in which a soldier suffered in his health from solitary confinement.

Registration and Account-books.

Magistrates' Book.
Chaplain's Book.
Surgeon's Book.
Keeper's Journal.
Description Book.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon treated 59 cases of disease in the Bridewell part last year, only six of which were acute cases. The Bridewell has been visited daily, and the whole of the prison every third day.

From Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836 no death occurred, and the greatest number of prisoners ill at the same time was one. The principal disorders here are rheumatic and venereal ones, the itch, and sore legs. No cases of cholera occurred here during the epidemic attack, and no influenza prevailed here during the last spring. No death has happened within the last four and a-half years. The surgeon has witnessed two or three cases of soldiers, whose health has been impaired by solitary confinement, and on such occasions he has recommended the gaoler to permit them to enjoy a larger portion of exercise.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Suicide :—

There has been no instance of it during the last four years and a half.

No. II.—Recommittals :—

Of the 18 prisoners at present confined here one man has been committed once before, and one woman has been committed four times previously. During the last year nine came for the second time, four had been twice before committed, and one, three times.

No. III.—The number and description of prisoners in the prison at the date of my visit, June 7, 1837 :—

Number of misdemeanors, males, 6; females, 1.
Soldiers committed by courts martial, 9.
Number of felons, males, 1; females, 1.
Total, males, 16
females, 2
— 18.

No. IV.—Number from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836 :—

Total number of prisoners, at Michaelmas 1835, 28,
at Michaelmas 1836, 20.
Number of debtors, none.
Number of prisoners committed in the course of the year, 339.
Greatest number of prisoners at one time, 39.

No. V.—Punishments for offences within the prison during the same period :—

In irons, none.
Solitary confinement, 12.
Other punishments, none.

III.
Southern and Western District.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Hampshire.
Gosport. County House of Correction.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To prepare some infirmary cells for sick prisoners of both sexes, with a fire-place in each cell; two cells for the men, and one for the women.

2. To improve the ventilation of the solitary cells in the ward appropriated for soldiers. These cells are at present so badly lighted that it is difficult either to read or to work in them. This inconvenience would be, to a certain extent, remedied by taking off a portion of the iron shutter.

3. In the vagrants' yard the inclined roof, particularly in the corner, affords facilities for escape; a revolving cheveux-de-frise, placed a little above the edge of the inclined roof, would present some obstacle.

4. Prisoners should not be allowed as at present to clean the front yard of the prison, because, although they are said to do this in presence of the gaoler or turnkey, they are still able to see, or to be seen by, the public passing on the outside the gate.

5. To enjoin silence to all prisoners.

6. To distribute a prison dress.

7. To define in writing the time to be allotted for daily exercise to the prisoners confined in separate cells.

8. To separate visitors more completely from the prisoners, by putting up a grating or grated-door.

PORTSMOUTH.—Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

[Portsmouth. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—This building stands in a street, and has no boundary wall. The Court-house is contained within its precincts. It is dry and well ventilated so far as its position renders it possible. It is fire-proof.

There are four wards for the males; one is for debtors, misdemeanants not sentenced to hard labour, prisoners for fines, and smugglers not sentenced to hard labour; another is for misdemeanants sentenced to hard labour, and for soldiers; in the third are felons and untried prisoners; and in the fourth are felons, untried prisoners, and vagrants. In the third and fourth the inmates are distributed according to character. For the females there are three wards, one of which is for debtors and misdemeanants, the two others are for the same classes as wards three and four of the males. There are seven yards in all.

There are for the men, of single sleeping cells, 37.
double or treble cells, 4.

There are for the women, of single sleeping cells, 14.

At the time of my visit there were two more men in confinement than there were male cells, and seven more women than there were female cells.

There are three dark cells for the men, and one dark cell for the women. There is one bathing-tub.

Management.—This prison is under the jurisdiction of the mayor, and two visiting magistrates are chosen from the town council. The whole premises are neat and clean.

The gaoler, assistant, matron, and turnkey sleep in the house.

The discipline here is too lax; silence is not enforced; and the assistance of another turnkey is much wanted.

There are wardsmen here, but no wardswomen. They generally, however, arrange that one woman, older than the rest, shall exercise some sort of superintendance. A young person, who is a relation of the gaoler, and has lived several years in his family, takes charge of the prisoners in the absence of the matron, but this is done with the sanction of the magistrates.

There are two master debtors here, who have separate rooms, and they remunerate the gaoler for their superior accommodation. No other fees whatever are demanded from debtors. The keeper was absent with convicts on my first visit.

Whipping.—When ordered by sentence of court is inflicted by the town-crier.

Punishments.—Punishments are seldom inflicted here; when necessary the prisoner is locked up in a cell, which is darkened by a shutter being placed over the window; his diet is then only bread and water.

Fire.—There has been no alarm from fire for 32 years.

Diet.—The goal allowance for each of the prisoners is 1½ lb. of the best bread daily, and 1 pint of oatmeal gruel with ginger and sugar in it; on Fridays each has three quarters of a pound of beef, including the bones, and also 1½ pint of soup made from the beef, with cabbage and herbs cut up with it. The beef and gruel is dressed by a female prisoner in the gaol kitchen. The poor debtors have the gaol allowance of food. The untried prisoners may receive food from their friends.

Clothing and Bedding.—There is no clothing provided here unless the prisoner is destitute. The bedding consists of two blankets, one rug, a straw mattrass, sheets for the sick prisoners. Towels and combs are also found. A razor is supplied to the prisoner who is called the captain of the gaol, for the general use.

Letters.—All letters are inspected either by the keeper or a turnkey.

Visits.—No visits are permitted to those prisoners sentenced to hard labour, unless by the order of a magistrate. The other convicted prisoners are allowed to receive visits from their

friends on Wednesdays, from the hour of 10 to 11. The female prisoners are allowed to have their visitors on the same day, from the hour of 3 to 4 in the afternoon.

Labour.—There is a tread-wheel, which holds 10 prisoners at one time; 10 are on and 10 are off. It is applied to raising water, and to no other purpose.

The women work at picking oakum.

Six hours daily are allotted to labour.

Escapes.—During 32 years that the turnkey has been in office, only two successful attempts have taken place, which happened in the case of two debtors, nearly 30 years ago. There have been many attempts subsequently, but all such have failed.

Religious and other Instruction.—There is no chapel at present, nor is there any chaplain. Adjoining to the prison, however, there is a piece of ground belonging to the establishment, on which the town council propose to erect a chapel, and also some new cells, whenever they shall have received the assent of the Home Office to commence building. To remedy the existing want of religious instruction, I have suggested to them the propriety of converting the lumber room or the visitors' room into a temporary chapel, in which Divine service might be performed in the morning for the male prisoners, and in the evening for the females. Such a measure of course supposes the appointment of a chaplain, to which the town council entertain no objection.

Suicides.—Two successful attempts have been made since 1831. On the 26th August 1831, a nonconvicted felon committed suicide by hanging himself. Verdict of coroner's inquest, "Hung himself in a fit of temporary insanity." On the 13th January 1835, another committed for a breach of the peace, committed suicide by hanging himself. Verdict of coroner's inquest, "Hung himself in a fit of temporary insanity." The body was interred by his family.

Care of the Sick, Disease and Mortality.—The surgeon finds the medicines himself. During the last 12 months there has been only one case sent into the infirmary—a man. The slighter cases during the same period have amounted to 103. In 1836 there were two women delivered here; a delivery usually happens once or twice yearly. The surgeon has been in office about 14 years. He generally visits every day. The chief disorders seen here are imported by the prisoners; they are itch, gonorrhœa, syphilitic affections, and disorders of the bowels. The health is very good. Fever is very rare. Some cases of supposed malignant cholera occurred here during its epidemic progress, but no death ensued. There were some slight cases of influenza this spring. Sugar and ginger were mixed in the gruel at the time of the cholera, but I have suggested to the surgeon, who had judiciously introduced it at that season, that it may be proper to discontinue it at present as a luxury no longer demanded. Soldiers have frequently been confined here in solitary cells during several months, even for a whole year, and the surgeon has found it necessary to order a larger portion of exercise for them.

There has been one death since January 1837; and only one male prisoner has been placed in the infirmary since 1st January.

There have been only two deaths from natural causes since the year 1832. On the 13th January 1832, a female convict died. Verdict of the coroner's inquest, "Died by the visitation of God." The body was interred by her family. On the 4th March 1837, another, a convicted felon, died. Verdict of coroner's inquest, "Died by the visitation of God."

General Statistics.

No. I.—Expenditure during the year 1837, (including salaries.)

	£.	s.	d.
Total cost of prison diet	255	10	9½
Male and female clothing	29	10	1
Bedding	4	10	0
Straw	1	18	0
Extra allowances by order of surgeon	9	4	7½
Fuel	35	17	0
Soap	12	12	0
Oil	8	16	0
Stationery	1	8	0
Books	0	7	0
Officers' salaries and emoluments:			
Gaoler	205	0	0
Turnkey	100	0	0
Matron	25	0	0
Surgeon	31	10	0
	361	10	0
Removing convicts	11	10	0
Sundry expenses not mentioned	23	18	4
Repairs and alterations	35	6	2
	£791	18	0

N.B. £800 per annum appears to be nearly the average expenditure of this prison.

No. II.—Registration and Account-books.

Gaol register.
Alphabetical register of all prisoners since 1831.
Soldiers' book.
Thursday's and Saturday's return book.
Tuesday's book.
Debtor's book.
Gaoler's journal.
Surgeon's journal.
Gaoler's account book.

The account books of maintenance are presented quarterly.

No. III.—Profits.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Profit from picking oakum in 1835	10	18	6
„ „ 1836	4	19	9
„ „ 1837	6	5	9

No. IV.—The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the date of my visit, 6th June 1837 :—

	Male.	Female.
Number of debtors	8	..
Number of misdemeanors	13	2
Number of felons	17	17
Total	38	19

No. V.—Average number of prisoners 50

No. VI.—Account of prisoners committed from the 1st day of January 1836, to the 1st day of January 1837 :

Soldiers under sentence of courts' martial	67
Male debtors	16
Female ditto	5
	—88
Male felons	107
Female ditto	45
Male misdemeanants	217
Female ditto	98
Total	555

No. VII.—Re-committals :—

Are here very numerous. One woman was imprisoned here last year for the 22d time, and one man for the 18th time.

No. VIII.—Tabular view of the progress of the Committals and Offences, from the year 1803 to the year 1830,—accompanied with references to the state of the population and to the circumstances of the times.

Committals in the Borough of Portsmouth.

Period. (The year ending at Michaelmas.)	FELONIES. Committals. For Examination. Males.	Females.	Total.	For trial at the Sessions.	Convicted.	Transported.	For the Assizes.	MISDEMEANORS. Committals. For Examination, and on Summary Process. Males.	Females.	Total.	For trial at the Sessions.	Convicted.	Transported.	For Debt.	For Punishment by Courts Martial.	Greatest Number of Prisoners at one time.	Total Number Committed.	Remarks.
1803	147	68	215	83	47	12	10	274	114	388	9	2	..	22	..	..	625	War with France.
1804	111	80	191	57	27	7	3	726	246	972	9	3	..	24	..	..	1,187	Many deserters from the navy, and disorderly women.
1805	149	91	240	49	26	5	2	598	146	744	3	2	..	32	..	..	1,016	
1806	93	79	172	48	31	4	..	374	223	597	6	6	..	40	..	..	809	
1807	108	63	171	55	23	2	..	416	235	651	20	6	..	16	..	..	838	
1808	114	63	177	60	40	11	7	357	114	471	1	..	..	20	..	..	677	New gaol occupied.
1809	113	32	145	71	48	10	10	344	126	470	12	2	..	36	..	..	651	
1810	89	55	144	50	34	4	18	244	100	344	4	2	..	44	..	..	532	
1811	90	46	136	55	37	2	4	248	125	373	12	6	..	36	..	..	545	
1812	152	51	203	91	63	9	14	266	85	351	14	9	1	38	..	..	592	
1813	145	63	208	83	49	10	22	252	98	350	25	15	..	55	23	..	636	
1814	146	74	220	90	58	8	7	202	142	344	18	7	..	64	43	..	671	Peace with France.
1815	179	64	243	72	55	12	19	418	176	594	18	10	..	58	52	..	947	
1816	148	53	201	69	43	7	18	311	131	442	18	10	..	45	9	..	697	
1817	163	54	217	87	64	7	31	194	47	241	18	9	2	73	17	..	548	
1818	136	43	179	57	43	8	25	269	39	308	11	8	..	31	21	..	539	
1819	118	43	161	68	51	..	21	226	49	275	12	6	..	25	22	..	483	
1820	119	42	161	70	49	6	19	236	44	280	8	5	..	21	24	..	486	
1821	107	33	140	61	41	11	15	208	29	237	15	10	..	15	18	..	410	
1822	100	38	138	61	44	5	13	214	82	296	20	10	..	28	9	..	471	
1823	76	23	99	47	32	8	8	238	79	317	36	17	..	28	10	..	454	
1824	102	49	151	73	41	11	19	207	45	252	12	5	..	30	1	61	434	
1825	117	50	167	73	45	8	14	180	60	240	10	3	..	35	4	62	446	
1826	67	23	90	46	31	8	5	236	65	301	20	11	..	45	..	50	436	
1827	96	30	126	54	38	8	11	233	45	278	21	6	..	62	8	65	474	
1828	101	39	140	62	46	11	14	194	59	253	29	11	1	29	2	62	424	Act passed (9 Geo. 4, c. 31) for trying assaults in a summary way.
1829	107	38	145	66	42	12	14	203	38	241	8	4	..	51	..	58	437	
1830	120	40	160	86	72	19	2	196	53	249	8	4	..	25	..	74	434	
Total . . .	3,313	1,427	4,740	1,844	1,220	225	345	8,064	2,795	10,859	379	189	4	1,037	263		16,899	
Maximum . .	179	91	243	90	72	19	31	726	246	972	36	17	2	73	..	74	1,187	Population 1801, 32,166.
Minimum . .	67	23	90	46	25	..	..	180	29	237	1	..	..	15	..	..	410	,, 1811, 38,468.
War average .	127	63	190	66	41	7	9	259	147	506	12	5	..	38	..	..	744	,, 1821, 42,064.
Peace average .	109	38	148	65	44	8	15	215	52	269	16	7	..	35	..	..	462	,, 1831, 46,282

III.

Southern and Western District.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Hampshire.

Portsmouth. Borough Gaol and House of Correction.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To make a temporary chapel until an opportunity occurs of carrying more complete arrangements into effect, and to appoint a chaplain.

2. To remove from the bedsteads of the men the fixed canvass covering, which promotes the accumulation of filth.

3. To appoint another turnkey, in order to strengthen the general discipline, as well as materially to assist in the preservation of silence.

4. To enjoin silence as a general rule.

5. Additional cells are necessary, in order that every prisoner may sleep in a separate cell at night.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

NEWPORT.—County Gaol and Bridewell.

Newport. County Gaol and Bridewell.

Construction.

The wards or divisions in the prison are 5.
Day-rooms, 5.
Work-rooms, 0.
Tread-wheel houses, or divisions upon the tread-wheels, 1.
Receiving rooms or cells, 0.
Divisions in the chapel, 3.
Infirmaries, or rooms for the sick,—males, 0.
„ „ females, 0.
Warm and cold baths, or bathing tubs, 0.
Airing-yards, 5.
Refractory cells—light, 3.
There is one yard for Untried male prisoners.
„ „ Convicted „
„ „ Debtors, „
„ „ Female prisoners,
and there is also another yard for male prisoners, which is not used.

There are altogether for the male prisoners 19 rooms, of which none is used as a day-room, and of which 14 are used as single cells or rooms. In the debtors' rooms four beds are contained. For the women there are four sleeping cells, and there is one dark cell. There are besides two cells for night charges: one for men, and one for women. These, properly, do not belong to the prison: the keys are kept by the watchman.

The prison appears dry. The cells are too dark, not sufficiently lighted to enable the inmates to read or to work, and not well enough ventilated to render them suitable for separate confinement during the day. The whole building is not very well ventilated. In some of the cells there are fire-places.

Management.—This prison is under the control of the county magistrates.

The prisoners of the borough of Newport were formerly kept here, at the time when sessions were held here for the borough; but they are now sent to Winchester. This prison is at present principally occupied by prisoners on their passage. Most heavy offenders are removed to Winchester.

Silence is enjoined here, and the use of tobacco is prohibited. Every prisoner sleeps at present in a separate cell, excepting the debtors. The meals are taken in the day-rooms; but the doors of the day-rooms are sometimes kept locked, in order that the prisoners may not congregate there. The female prisoners are exclusively attended by the matron.

The building is maintained in a neat state generally. The keeper, the turnkey, and the turnkey's wife (who is the matron), all reside on the premises. The keeper makes up a weekly account to the magistrates. The keeper makes a bill for the conveyance of prisoners. Convicted prisoners are not at present allowed to receive any visits, nor any letters. The letters are delivered to them at the time of their discharge.

Diet.—The untried prisoners may receive food from without. The allowance to all the prisoners is a threepenny loaf daily of the best bread; it weighs $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb. On Sundays half a pound of pickled pork, ready cooked, and without bone, is given to each prisoner: six or seven potatoes, and a large cabbage boiled up with the pork, are also distributed on that day to each individual. The poor debtors also receive the above rations. The gaoler buys these articles where he thinks fit: there is no contract.

The weekly cost of the prison diet per head is 2*s.* 3*d.*

Bedding.—There is no regulation as to bedding. The gaoler allots such as he deems proper. He usually provides a straw mattress, two blankets, and a rug, for each individual. The debtors pay nothing for their bedding, unless they choose to have a feather bed.

Clothing.—There is no store whatever of clothes kept here.

Escapes.—During above 20 years two prisoners only have completely escaped. They made their exit through a hole in the wall. During the same period there have been two instances in which prisoners have succeeded in getting outside, but they were recaptured.

Executions.—None has taken place here since the year 1814.

Insanity.—There is no case of it in the prison at present. About five insane persons have been confined here during the space of 20 years.

Labour.—The hard labour is afforded by the tread-wheel, which holds 12 at one time. Whitewashing and cleansing the premises are other means of employment. Both the men and women wash their own clothes. A man sometimes works at his own trade, by the permission of the magistrates.

The hours of labour are from nine to four. No ruptured prisoner and no female works at the tread-wheel. The prisoners remain at the tread-wheel for half an hour at a time. The surgeon has remarked that at the end of a quarter of an hour they become exhausted. He has examined the pulse on such occasions, and has observed that it has risen from 75 to 130 beats during the quarter of an hour.

There is no profit from the labour, nor is the tread-wheel applied to any purpose but that of toil.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs divine service once on Sundays, and preaches a sermon. He usually reads two short prayers or services in the week, besides his Sunday duty, and also gives instruction to the prisoners: the instruction takes place in the chapel, as being the most convenient place for it. Several prisoners are taught at the same time. He generally appoints one of the prisoners to teach the others to read. He offers to administer the sacrament three times in the year; but no one will take it. He never recollects to have found a prisoner who had received the sacrament previously. The gaoler is present in the chapel on Sundays; but there is no female who attends with the female prisoners during the service. The chaplain has held this appointment 10 or 12 years: he is the master of the grammar-school, and is also chaplain to the house of industry; but this last office he will resign almost immediately; and at present another gentleman divides the duty with him. The prisoners are well supplied with Bibles and other religious books, procured by the chaplain at the expense of the county. He keeps no separate journal, but writes memoranda in the common register.

The chaplain has seen a few cases of reformation. He came into office about the year 1824.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has held this office above 20 years. He attends whenever he is sent for; and, if a case requires it, he visits the sick prisoner every day, or even twice in the day. He usually comes here on a Saturday. There was no epidemic cholera here, although a few cases appeared in the town; no other epidemic has prevailed; but a few prisoners suffered from the influenza last spring. There is no infirmary. Prisoners, when ill, are taken to the house of industry, and are there attended by the surgeon of the house of industry. None of the prisoners who have been sent thither have died. No particular disorder has been common here. The prisoners who have been sent to the house of industry on the ground of illness have been generally syphilitic. But the plan of transferring prisoners, when sick, to the house of industry is most objectionable on every ground, and may easily be superseded by fitting up an infirmary cell for the men, and another for the women. During 20 years only one death is recollected to have taken place among the prisoners committed hither, including those who have been removed, when unwell, to the house of industry. During the last 12 months only one prisoner has been so much indisposed as to keep his bed: he was afterwards removed to the house of industry. The surgeon has occasion to send some medicine hither, perhaps twice in the week on an average; but this is for slight complaints. In January 1837 six prisoners were unwell at once with the influenza, out of 19 prisoners, the entire mass. Only one woman has lain in here since the year 1813.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Salaries.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Keeper (out of which he pays the turnkey: he has no perquisites)	100	0	0
Chaplain	50	0	0
Surgeon (including medicines)	25	0	0
Matron	20	0	0

No. II.—Increased Population.

The keeper believes that the number of offenders increases only in the same ratio as the population. The chaplain remarks that there is a great increase of poachers and of smugglers, as well as of juvenile prisoners, who have been conducted into offence by acting as the agents of such individuals.

No. III.—Registration and Account-books.

1. Day-book and ledger.
2. Register, including chaplain's and surgeon's notes.
3. Prisoners' name-book for the county.
4. Ditto for the borough.

No. IV.—Average number of prisoners.

The ordinary number fluctuates between 15 and 20. Since the 1st of January 1837 the greatest number confined here at once has been 23.

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Hampshire.

Newport. County Gaol and Bridewell.

No. V.—View of the Admissions (including debtors) during recent successive years.

In 1836	311
1835	288
1834	324
1833	429
1832	338

No. VI.—Expenditure (not including Salaries).

The large amount of the third quarter in the following table arises from its including some of the tradesmen's bills for the entire year, as for instance, bedding 18*l.* 12*s.*, ironmonger 6*l.* 18*s.*, glazier 4*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, straw 5*l.*, books 1*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*

	£.	s.	d.
From 1st April to 30th June 1836	55	18	0
From 1st July to 30th September 1836	54	11	9
From 1st October to 31st December 1836	128	3	11
From 1st January to 31st March 1837	60	15	8
Total for one year	£ 299	9	4

No. VII.—Recommittals.

Of the 12 prisoners now confined here, one man and one boy have been committed once before, and one woman has been committed hither twice before.

No. VIII.—The Number and Description of Prisoners in the Prison on the Date of this Return, 10th June 1837.

	Male.	Female.
Number of debtors	4	..
Number of misdemeanants	6	2
Number of felons	..	..
Prisoners for trial	..	..
Prisoners under sentence	..	..
Total	10	2

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To place a curtain in the chapel in order to separate effectually the male prisoners from the female.
2. The matron should always be present during the performance of Divine service.
3. The turnkey should be present during prayers on a week-day, which is now not the case.
4. An infirmary cell should be prepared for the use of the sick of each sex.
5. A bathing tub is wanted.
6. Three or four of the privies have no seats and are quite open; there is a bad smell from them, and they need repair.
7. There is no fixed allowance of soap nor of salt. A small store of clothes, of combs, and of towels, is requisite.
8. The window in the day-room of the women's ward should be made to open.
9. Both the gaoler and the turnkey (his son) are constables, and are sent for whenever a disturbance occurs. It is very desirable that they should be confined to their duties within the walls of the prison, and that they should not be liable to services requiring their sudden attendance outside.
10. The gaoler at present cooks the prisoners' food with his own coals, and supplies them with his own salt. This practice should be discontinued, and an allowance made for the purpose.
11. The lumber rooms adjoining the female sleeping rooms should be fitted up as separate female sleeping cells.
12. The gaoler holds an office which, according to his own account, occupies one day in the week, although he derives no emolument from it. It is very desirable that he should be relieved from this impediment to his ordinary functions in the prison.

I am assured that all the above suggestions will be immediately carried into effect.

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

Monmouthshire.

Monmouth. County Gaol and House of Correction.

MONMOUTH.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—There is a boundary wall, but the debtors' ward is overlooked by the upper windows of a neighbouring house.

This prison contains 10 classes, 10 day-rooms, and 9 airing-yards. Separate confinement

cannot be practised in any form or modification in the actual state of the prison. Some of the cells are light and large enough: others, the contrary; but there are not cells enough of any kind to provide a separate sleeping cell for each prisoner. The keeper lets out four cells adjoining his own room to master debtors. Night charges are not brought hither; there is a lock-up-house in the town.

There is one dark cell for male prisoners; and two single cells on the roof were intended as punishment cells for refractory debtors, but they are not in use.

There is one sleeping room for debtors, containing 14 beds.

There are 36 sleeping cells for criminals.

Thirty-six prisoners can be accommodated in separate sleeping cells; and 70 when more than one prisoner sleeps in a cell.

Out of these cells six are for the female prisoners; and one of these six are destined for female debtors, but with no yard. There is much want of accommodation for the male debtors.

Management.—The keeper was absent at the quarter sessions at Usk when I visited this prison. The chief turnkey has been here for years; he was formerly in the army. The other turnkey has been engaged here nearly 20 years. The part of the prison occupied by debtors was very much crowded at the time of my visit; I found 14 debtors sleeping together in one room. There are not at present in the prison a sufficient number of bedsteads to allow one for each prisoner. At present there is no cell where more than three criminals sleep. In some of the male criminal cells there is a large board, on which three prisoners lie together under separate bed-clothes. Two women are rarely placed in the same bed. The behaviour of the prisoners is usually orderly. The whole prison is clean and neat.

Punishments for Offences in Prison during the Year ending Michaelmas 1836.

	Tried. Male.	Tried. Female.	Untried. Male.	Untried. Female.
Irons	..	..	..	..
Whipping	..	..	..	..
Dark cells	24	..	3	..
Solitary cells	47	6	..	..
Stoppage of diet	..	..	..	..
Other punishment	..	..	..	..
Total	71	6	3	..

	Male.	Female.
Number sentenced to solitary confinement	1	..

Salaries.

	£.	s.	d.
Chaplain (per annum)	120	0	0
Surgeon	80	0	0
Keeper	150	0	0
Matron	20	0	0
Turnkeys (per week)	1	15	0

Both the turnkeys receive coals and candles.

Punishments.—The turnkey was employed to whip about three times in the year 1836; two dozen was the number of lashes. There are two whips, one for boys, the other for men. The turnkey receives 2*s.* 6*d.* for each execution of this sentence of court. The surgeon is always present.

Escapes.—No escape has proved successful during 19 years; but there have been many attempts.

Suicides.—During the period just specified there have been two or three ascertained attempts at suicide; but they have all failed. One man tried to hang himself on being placed in a solitary cell.

Recommittals.—Of the prisoners now confined here, only one is known to have been committed hither before.

Executions.—During 19 years there have been about 13. Three occurred during the last nine years. Of the whole number of persons executed only two were women.

Whipping.

Number of individuals sentenced to be whipped during the Year.

	Males.
Publicly	..
Privately	2

Diet.—The daily diet for the prisoners not sentenced to hard labour and for the poor debtors is one and a half pound of bread, at least 24 hours old.

One pound of potatoes.

Four ounces of oatmeal made into gruel, two quarts; salt not limited.

The prisoners on hard labour receive an additional half pound of bread daily.

Labour consists of the tread-wheel for male prisoners sentenced to hard labour; cleaning the prison affords some additional employment. Stones are broken for the use of the prison. The women are made to work at washing, making, and mending the clothes used by the

prisoners; occasionally a tailor or shoemaker is set to work. The tread-wheel is too small; last year there were so many prisoners sentenced to hard labour (33), that half were obliged to work at one part of the day, and half at another; the unemployed half being kept locked up in their cells. One hard labour prisoner cleans all the wards, and another is a cook. The tread-wheel holds 15; it has two divisions; its power has no application.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs Divine service twice, and delivers a sermon once, on Sundays, on Christmas-day, and on Good Friday; he reads prayers also on Wednesdays and Fridays. He visits the prisoners once a week. The keeper frequently reads prayers to the prisoners on the mornings in which the chaplain does not officiate. There is no schoolmaster, and no regular provision for instruction; but prisoners are sometimes taught to read by their fellow prisoners.

There is a plentiful supply of religious books.

View of the State of Education prevailing among the Prisoners committed hither during the Year ending Michaelmas 1836.

	Male.	Female.
Can neither read nor write	29	9
Read only	19	3
One or both imperfectly	30	2
Read and write well	3	..
Total	81	14

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—During the Year ending Michaelmas 1836 the following cases occurred:—

	Male.	Female.
Slight indisposition	25	5
Infirmary cases	5	5
Greatest number at one time	1	1

No death has occurred from 30th September 1835 to 30th September 1836.

The surgeon has been acquainted with the interior of the prison during 13 years, but he has not been in office throughout the whole of that time; he visits twice a-week, and more frequently if requisite. He believes that prisoners after a long confinement stand in need of an increased diet; during the early period they appear to do well, but suffer subsequently sometimes. A prisoner who had been confined 15 months was lately seized with an attack of English cholera, and the surgeon had much difficulty in inducing reaction. He has formerly witnessed here cases of scurvy. The power of granting an extra allowance of food is, as usual, vested in him. The principal disorders which occur here are bilious affections, diarrhœa, rheumatism (chiefly the chronic kind), catarrh, a considerable proportion of itch, and some fever of a bilious character. Many prisoners were ill with the influenza last spring; so many as 40 were thus affected at one time. On the breaking up of the frost in the spring of 1836 English cholera made its appearance, and 16 or 18 prisoners experienced a visitation of it, without a single fatal result. No case of the malignant epidemic cholera was known within these walls. From the 1st of January 1837 to the 26th of June of the same year, two deaths have occurred, one was from phthisis. During nine years two women have lain in here, one of whom died. The surgeon receives no extra remuneration for deliveries. Considerable inconvenience sometimes arises from the occupation of the female infirmary by the male debtors, who, when very numerous, are thus improperly accommodated. There are usually from 8 to 10 inmates requiring his assistance whenever he comes hither; it is sometimes necessary for him to make a visit twice or even thrice in the same day. There is a deposition from the water employed in the prison, but he has observed no peculiar symptom to supervene from its use. There is no insane prisoner here at present.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. A yard should be set apart for the female debtors.
2. There are no lids to the privies in any part, nor any doors to the privies, excepting in the male debtors' yard; these should be supplied.
3. There is no privy at all in the tread-wheel yard; hence arises the great inconvenience of conducting the prisoners from the tread-wheel yard into another yard, on which occasions (sometimes feigned) the turnkey is obliged to accompany them, and thus he is compelled to quit his proper station in the tread-wheel house, and as soon as he is gone irregularities commence. It would be very desirable to make a privy here.
4. In the two condemned cells the windows do not open; and although there is an aperture in the wall for the admission of air, yet it does not admit a sufficient quantity. The ventilation should be improved. The ante-rooms to these condemned cells are also sometimes used as sleeping cells; but they require a stronger partition.
5. The portion of the windows which open in some of the day-rooms is very small, and might with advantage be enlarged.
6. Another turnkey is requisite.
7. The prisoners should not be permitted to work outside the walls in a garden.
8. Sheets should be dispensed with, except for the sick.

9. A general rule should be enjoined for the preservation of silence; at present it only exists at the tread-wheel.

10. A sufficient supply of separate beds should be provided, in order that prisoners may not sleep on the same board. Additional cells are a want not so easily supplied.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Number of Prisoners confined here at the date of my visit, 26th June 1837.

Male debtors	21
Female debtors	2
Male prisoners for trial	1
Convicted male prisoners	21
Convicted female prisoners	2
Total	47

N. B. The number sleeping in single cells at the time of my visit was 30; in treble cells 6, namely, 3 in each of the two cells.

No. II.—Number of Prisoners confined here during the Year ending Michaelmas 1836:—

	Male.	Female.
In custody at commencement of year	16	2
Received, who have not been in other custody	49	8
Received from other keepers	33	6
Total	98	16

No. III.—Ages of Prisoners for and from Assizes and Quarter Sessions:—

	Male.	Female.
Under 12	1	0
„ 14	0	1
„ 17	6	1
„ 21	12	3
„ 30	36	3
„ 30 and upwards	26	6
Total	81	14

No. IV.—Recommittals during the above Year:—

Once	5	all male prisoners.
Twice	1	

Expenditure.

No. V.—Total cost per annum:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Prison diet	234	2	11
Male and female clothing	24	9	7
Bedding	28	11	10
Extra allowances for surgeon	17	15	8
Beer and spirits		..	
Fuel	38	8	2
Soap	8	14	8½
Candles	4	11	0½
Washing	0	10	0
Cooking		..	
Stationery	12	0	6
Books	2	0	4
Furniture		..	
Salaries, Fees, &c.	462	10	0
Removal of prisoners for trial	16	9	6
Removing transported convicts	49	12	6
Sundries not mentioned	28	8	6½
Total expenses of the prison for the year	£928	5	3½
Repairs and alterations	48	10	8½
Prison diet per head per annum, 346 days	5	14	6¼
Prison clothing and bedding per head per annum	1	3	1

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Monmouthshire.

Monmouth. County Gaol and House of Correction.

No. VI.

Officers.	Number of each.	Salaries.	Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.	Total.	Nature of Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	
Governor	1	150 0 0	22 10 0	172 10 0	Letting apartments to debtors in the keeper's house, and copies of warrants.
Chaplain	1	120 0 0	..	120 0 0	
Matron	1	20 0 0	..	20 0 0	
Surgeon and medicines .	1	80 0 0	..	80 0 0	
Chief turnkey	1	62 8 0	0 7 6	62 15 6	For flogging prisoners, and serving declarations to debtors.
Turnkeys, male . . .	1	26 0 0	..	26 0 0	
Porter and gatekeepers .	1	2 12 0	..	2 12 0	
Other male officers, assistants at assizes . . .	2	1 10 0	..	1 10 0	
Total . . . £	..	462 10 0	22 17 6	485 7 6	

No. VII.—Comparative Table of Receipts and of Expenses:—

	£.	s.	d.
Profits arising from productive labour done in the prison	4	19	0
Amount received for the support of vagrants . .	0	1	3
Amount received from Exchequer for the subsistence of transports	9	5	0
Other receipts	5	9	6
Total . . .	19	14	9
Total expenses of prison	928	5	3½
Total receipts of ditto	19	14	9
Actual cost to the county, city, or borough, not including alterations and additions	908	10	6½

No. VIII.—The greatest number of prisoners at one time in this year. Male. 49 Female. 5

No. IX.—Scale of Tread-wheel Labour, as delivered by the Gaoler.

	Hours per Day.	On the Wheel at one time.	Height of each Step.	Ordinary Velocity.	Proportion on the Wheel to the whole.	Ascent per Day in Feet.	Revolutions of the Wheel per Day.	Daily Labour.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
January ...	6	14	6 in.	$2\frac{6}{13}$	2— 4	10,368	864	No means of ascertaining.	The wheel revolves 36 times every quarter of an hour; and the wheel contains 24 steps of six inches each.	None.
February ...	7	,,	,,	,,	2— 5	12,096	1,008			
March	8	,,	,,	,,	3— 6	13,824	1,152			
April	9	,,	,,	,,	4— 7	15,552	1,296			
May.....	10	,,	,,	,,	4— 8	17,280	1,440			
June	10	,,	,,	,,	5— 9	17,280	1,440			
July.....	10	,,	,,	,,	5—10	17,280	1,440			
August.....	10	,,	,,	,,	5—11	17,280	1,440			
September..	9	,,	,,	,,	6—12	15,552	1,296			
October	8	,,	,,	,,	6—13	13,824	1,152			
November ..	7	,,	,,	,,	6—14	12,096	1,008			
December ..	6	,,	,,	,,	7—14	10,368	864			

USK.—County House of Correction.

Construction.—This building is not suited to its purpose; it stands on the road-side, in the neighbourhood of other houses, and does not possess sufficient accommodation. It appears to be a building of some age, and it has been in contemplation to rebuild, instead of altering or enlarging it. There are four classes or divisions of prisoners, viz., one for male felons, misdemeanors, and assaults, and prisoners confined for want of sureties, to appear at the quarter sessions; one for male convicted prisoners; one for female felons, and females confined for want of sureties, to appear at the quarter sessions; and one for convicted females. Airing-yards are attached to each class. The classes cannot be increased without additional buildings. It would be impossible to carry separate confinement into effect in this prison, under any shape whatever. But, without any reference to that topic, it is extremely desirable that a new and ample edifice should be erected, embracing sufficient room to afford a separate sleeping cell to each inmate.

Solitary cells, one.
Apartments below ground, none.
Number of prisoners the prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping cells, 17.
The number which the prison can contain when more than one sleeps in a cell, 48.

Diet.—All prisoners receive the prison allowance of food; 1½ lb. of household bread per day, with 1 lb. of potatoes; and four ounces of oatmeal, made into gruel. One ounce of salt is given daily to each prisoner.

Punishments.—Number of during the year (ending Michaelmas 1836) for offences within the prison—whippings, none; in irons, none; solitary confinement, 35; other punishments, none.

Labour.—For male convicted prisoners, working on the tread-wheel forms the hard labour. For women, the labour consists in sewing, washing, mending, and making the prison clothing, bedding, &c., sweeping and washing the prison. The whitewashing is done by the male prisoners. The whitewashing the prison, making and mending the prison clothing, being done by the prisoners, is some saving to the county. Some repairs of the prison have been executed by prisoners, but the value of the work has never been charged to the county; it has, however, been a great saving of expense. The untried are not employed. Tread-wheel labour is regarded as a punishment, but other employment is not so regarded.

The following was the number of prisoners employed, or otherwise, during the above-mentioned year:—

Hard labour, 102; employment not being hard labour, none; prisoners not employed, 103.

When the male prisoners are at their labour, they are generally attended by the turnkey, and sometimes by the governor.

Management.—This prison is neatly kept, and carefully conducted; its space is extremely confined, and this scantiness of room is an obstacle to the improvement of its discipline. The untried male prisoners are placed in one class, and associate together in the day room and yard the whole of the day. Untried females are in a separate class; and have a day-room and yard to themselves the whole of the day. Three male prisoners sleep generally in one cell by night, but the untried do not associate with the convicted. The convicted male prisoners are placed in one class by themselves by day and night; the convicted females are also in a class by themselves by day and night. The prisoners take their meals in their separate classes, and from Lady-day to Michaelmas, breakfast at eight o'clock, dine at one o'clock, and sup at six; but the times of breakfast and supper vary in the winter months. The females are attended by the matron exclusively. Every class of prisoners has a separate yard for air and exercise the whole of the day; and the prisoners walk in and out of the day-room as they please. The male prisoners are under the inspection of the governor or turnkey at different times in the day; and the females are under that of the matron. No debtors are ever confined here. The chief offences within the prison are not conforming to the rules, disobeying the orders of the governor and other officers, negligence of work, and damaging the prison clothing and utensils. The mode of punishment is by confinement in dark or light cells.

Whipping.—Seldom exceeds 30 lashes; is executed in the presence of the governor, the surgeon, and turnkey. There has been no case of whipping in this prison, during the last year and upwards.

Visits and Letters.—Convicted prisoners are allowed to receive visits from their friends any day except Sunday, at regulated hours, by obtaining an order from one of the visiting magistrates, or any magistrate of the county; they are also allowed to write and receive letters from their friends, under the inspection of the governor.

Salaries.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*	
Chaplain	80	0	0	per annum.
Surgeon	30	0	0	,,
Keeper	90	0	0	,,
Matron	20	0	0	,,
Turnkey	0	17	0	per week.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain reads prayers every morning to the prisoners, and performs Divine service twice on a Sunday. He keeps a journal. There is no provision for elementary instruction, except so far as one prisoner teaches another. The prisoners are supplied with Bibles and other religious books by the county. The chaplain is vicar of Usk, in which town he resides. He has also other preferment in the neighbourhood, but does not officiate there himself.

Registration and Account Books.

Chaplain's book,
Visiting magistrates' book,
Surgeons' book,
Keeper's journal,
Day book,
Food book,
Bread book,
Prison register,
Quarterly account book.

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Monmouthshire.

Usk. County House of Correction.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon attends every other day regularly; often every day, and twice a-day when necessary. As regards the attendance or nursing of a sick prisoner: when a prisoner is ill in the hospital, if a male, another male prisoner is stationed with him to wait upon him, should such service be required. If a female prisoner is sick, a female prisoner is placed to wait upon her, if necessary. The chief disorders here appear to be slight affections of the chest. The change of shirts from flannel to coarse linen has been noticed sometimes to produce slight colds. The duration of illness varies from 6 to 10 days on an average for each prisoner. From Michaelmas 1835, to Michaelmas 1836, the cases of slight indisposition amounted to 52 males, and 8 females; the infirmary cases were 2 males and 4 females. The greatest number of sick at any one time in the year was 3 males and 2 females. There was no death during the year.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Number of Prisoners confined in this Prison in the course of the year, from Michaelmas 1835, to Michaelmas 1836:—

	Males.	Females.
In custody at the commencement of the year	16	4
Received under commitments, and who have not been in the custody of others	178	25
Received from the custody of other keepers, and enumerated in their returns	2	0
Total	196	29

No. II.—Greatest number of Prisoners at one time, 43.

No. III.—Number of Prisoners who have been committed before:—
Once, 24; Twice, none; Three times, 1; Four and more, 1.

No. IV.—Expenditure during the year:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total cost of prison diet	128	6	1
Male and female clothing	27	8	6½
Extra allowances by order of the surgeon	1	15	8
Fuel	23	3	0
Soap	5	5	3
Candles	3	4	0
Stationery and printing calendars	8	4	0½
Books	1	14	9
Officers' salaries	264	4	0
Removing prisoners to be tried at Assizes	4	11	0
Removing transports	28	11	0
Sundries not mentioned	25	7	4
Total expenses of the prison for the year	521	14	8

No. V.—The cost per day of each prisoner for diet is 3½*d.*

No. VI.—The cost per head per day, including all expenses of the establishment, is for each prisoner 14*d.*

No VIII.—SCALE of TREAD-WHEEL LABOUR, as delivered by the Gaoler.

Months Employed.	Number of Working Hours per day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	The ordinary velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day, as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
January	6	15	7 in.	Half the number off. The ordinary proportion off the wheels, to the total number employed is one-half. Changes only 10 minutes.	48 steps.	2,520	720	2,520	No record, but governed by the diary of working hours.	Labour only.
February	7	15	7		48 „	2,940	840	2,940		
March	8	15	7		48 „	3,360	960	3,360		
April	9	15	7		48 „	3,780	1,080	3,780		
May	10	15	7		48 „	4,200	1,200	4,200		
June	10	15	7		48 „	4,200	1,200	4,200		
July	10	15	7		48 „	4,200	1,200	4,200		
August	10	15	7		48 „	4,200	1,200	4,200		
September.	9	15	7		48 „	3,780	1,080	3,780		
October	8	15	7		48 „	3,360	960	3,360		
November	7	15	7		48 „	2,940	840	2,940		
December	6	15	7		48 „	2,520	720	2,520		

Suggestions towards Improvement.

Although the gaol is extremely small, inconvenient, even insecure, and very deficient in a proper number of cells, as well as in the size of the actual cells, yet the building is not so flagrantly bad as to warrant me in calling the attention of the magistrates to the urgent necessity of immediately erecting a new one. Nevertheless, it is extremely inferior to most county gaols, and it would be a great advantage to the county to possess a better one.

1. To permit no sheets, except for the use of the sick.
2. To place night-stools in the male and female infirmary.
3. To provide a bath.
4. To appoint another turnkey. Such an officer is the more necessary here, because the small space is so crowded, and a greater degree of superintendence is therefore requisite, in order to preserve order, and to prevent communication between the prisoners. Besides, there is no boundary wall here, which, of course, renders the prison less secure. One turnkey should be always present at the tread-wheel.
5. To have several light iron bedsteads, and a new stock of bedding, in order that every prisoner may sleep in a *separate* bed. At present, some sleep two in a bed. Although the cells are small, three light iron bedsteads might be placed in them, which would be a less evil than the present state of things.
6. To make a small shed in the centre of the tread-wheel yard, under which stones might be broken by prisoners unfit for tread-wheel labour; and under other circumstances, occasionally.
7. To make a small sentry-box, in which the turnkey might sit in inclement weather, near to the tread-wheel.
8. To provide a better supply of combs.
9. To make a small grated aperture in the middle of the door, to which visitors come; this door to be kept locked when visitors are present, and the grating alone to be opened during the visit.
10. To restrict visits and letters, according to the recommendation of the Lords' Committee, and of the Home Secretary.
11. To enjoin silence by rule.
12. To make a small pew in the chapel for the gaoler and his family.
13. To allow to the prisoners actually engaged in hard labour, an additional half pound of potatoes, or other mixed vegetables.
14. To make a grating in the street-door of the prison, so as to prevent the necessity of continually opening it. It would be also expedient, if allowable, to erect a wooden railing, with a wooden gate outside of the door, so as to keep off strangers, and to diminish the continual approach to the door. I mention *wooden* railings, with a view of not causing unnecessary expense, when there is a remote probability of the erection of a new gaol. In the above recommendations, I have avoided any sources of expenditure that are not pressing, because I have contemplated the possibility of a new gaol. The iron bedsteads recommended, would, of course, be available under any circumstances.

Some of the present iron bedsteads are made to hold two persons; it would be prudent to get rid of such altogether.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

NORTHAMPTON.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.

The total number of cells is	75
The number of dark cells for the male prisoners	1
The number of single cells for males	11
Cells which hold three men	54
The number of cells for females is	10
The total number of day-rooms	11
The number of wards	11
The number of yards	11
Cells for females suffering from itch	2

These are exclusive of debtors' cells. The debtors have—

Of day-rooms	2
Of yards	1
Bed-rooms	11

The number of bed-rooms in use is nine. They are large in size.

If imprisonment for debt should be abolished, the debtors' apartments would, probably, be converted into wards for the female prisoners. The keeper has prepared a plan for making about 70 new cells, of which the dimensions are 8 feet long, 5¾ wide, and about 10 feet high. A new range of building would be raised, enclosing the present tread-wheels, which would not be removed from their actual position. If this idea were realized, the treble cells in the old building might become single ones, and the females would gain space and new cells by occupying ward No. 1, in addition to their present ward.

III.
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Northamptonshire.
Northampton. County Gaol and House of Correction.

At present it is impossible to afford a separate cell for each prisoner. Nearly all the male cells hold three beds, and are inconveniently small for that purpose. The cells are altogether small, not very well lighted, except when the sun is on them; at other times they would be scarcely well lighted enough to enable the inmate to read or to work without difficulty. The cells might be rendered somewhat more light by improving the windows. Solitary or separate confinement is quite impracticable here as a general system, both on account of the insufficient number of cells and also of the unsuitableness of the cells for that purpose; that is to say, their unfitness to contain a prisoner constantly day and night. Over the door of most of the cells is a large iron grating, by means of which the prisoners can easily converse with those on the opposite side of the corridor. There is no provision, at present, for warming the cells in winter. The yards are small; the supply of water is scanty. The water-closets in some yards do not act well, in consequence of the pump and cistern undergoing some repairs. There is one bath in a bathing-room, and one bathing tub.

Management.—An honourable and happy change has taken place within about 20 years about that time all the prisoners charged with felony are stated to have been confined with irons.

The governor, matron, the upper turnkey, lower turnkey, and baker, reside in the prison. The prisoners are placed together in the day ward to which they belong when not at work. They take their meals at 8 o'clock in the morning and at 12 at noon, in their respective day rooms; and they have free access to their yards.

Prisoners convicted, or committed in execution for three months, or upwards, are not allowed to see their relations or friends oftener than once in three months; if sentenced or committed for a shorter period, they are not allowed to do so during their confinement. As to letters, they have not been withheld, but are previously inspected by the governor.

Silence is enjoined, and tobacco is prohibited. The last set of rules was framed in the year 1826. The master debtors pay the keeper 4*s.* weekly, and the others 1*s.* weekly, for which he furnishes them with bedding. There are no combs here, except such as belong to the prisoners. Towels are allowed, and soap is distributed accordingly as it is wanted. None of the male prisoners are said ever to sleep two in a bed: the women do so sometimes.

No money is given to prisoners on their discharge.

The male prisoners do not average more than 12 in one company; when under instruction, when exercising, when at their meals, or when engaged at labour, they are under the superintendence of the officers of the prison. The females do not average more than six in one company, and are under the superintendence of the matron of the prison.

Offences and Punishments.—The usual prison offences are quarrelling in the day rooms during the time of meals, talking on the tread-wheels, and calling from their cells. The following is a view of the number and nature of the punishments inflicted during the year:—

	Tried.		Untried.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Irons	..	..	..	..
Dark cells	9	..	2	..
Solitary cells	42	..	12	..
Stoppage of diet	10	1	5	..
Other punishments	23	6	13	1
Total	84	7	32	1

Whipping.—The number of lashes usually inflicted varies from 30 to 60. It is always executed in the presence of the surgeon and keeper.

Number of Prisoners sentenced by Courts of Justice to be Whipped in the course of the Year.

	Male.	Female.
Publicly whipped	..	..
Privately	2	..

Labour.—The principal labour consists in the tread-mill,—grinding, dressing of corn, flour, &c. Shoemaking, picking hair, carding wool, and other such occupations, are also practised. The labour is productive. One-fourth of the profits is retained by the gaoler; the residue is paid to the county treasurer. Hard labour is observed to operate as a punishment; the lighter labour, above mentioned, is felt as a punishment in a much smaller degree.

A few trades are carried on here, occasionally, when prisoners happen to be versed in them. The washing is all performed by the female prisoners.

Mode in which Prisoners confined in this Prison, in the course of the Year, have been employed.

	Males.	Females.
Hard labour	468	57
Employment, not being hard labour	106	8
Not employed	73	16

SCALE of TREAD-WHEEL LABOUR, as delivered by the Gaoler.

N.B. The hours of labour are 6½ daily throughout every month of the year.

Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at a time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number Employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day, as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheel per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
There are four wheels which hold 32 persons.	Seven inches.	48 steps.	One-fourth.	10,920 feet in 6½ hours.	780.	10,920 feet.	It is not recorded with precision.	Raising water for the use of the Prison.

SCALE of CRANK LABOUR, as delivered by the Gaoler.

N.B. There is no application of this power.

Number of working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Cranks will employ at One Time in separate Apartments.	The ordinary Velocity of the Cranks per Minute.
Average for the whole year 6½ hours, exclusive of 1½ hours allowed for meals.	Six.	This cannot be ascertained. Six prisoners are allowed about 2 hours to grind 1½ bushels of corn.

Solitary Confinement.

	Male.	Female.
Number of prisoners sentenced by courts of justice to solitary confinement, in the course of the year . .	29	3

Diet.—The bread is of seconds quality. It is baked in the prison, where baking is also carried on for a few private persons. The diet has lately received a beneficial augmentation, in consequence of some cases of scurvy, and of the recommendation of the surgeon; of which a notice will be found under the appropriate head. The health will be found to have greatly improved since this change.

	Bread.	Soup.	Gruel.
Men . . . Women . . Boys . .	Oz. 24 Daily.	Pints. 2 The allowance is 1*d.* per day, which is expended in beefs-heads, vegetables, oatmeal, &c.	Pints. 2 The allowance is one halfpenny per day, which is expended in oatmeal, &c.

Registration and Account Books.

Prison Register, very copiously headed.
Borough Prison Register.
Description Book—copious and good.
Daily Account of Grinding and other Labour.
Surgeon's Journal.
Chaplain's Journal.
Copy Book of Gaol Returns.
Visitors' and Sheriffs' Book.—The visiting magistrates enter their remarks in the Day Book.
Debtors' Book.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain visits the prison on Sundays, when he delivers Divine service twice, and one sermon. He also attends on week-days generally, except on Saturdays; but then always, if necessary. On week-days he goes to see the new prisoners, and questions them in the chapel, having a turnkey present; but he occasionally visits them in their own wards, He catechises the prisoners and hears them read, and also reads to them in the Bible and explains passages. One of the prisoners reads aloud a prayer to his fellows twice a-day on the ringing of a bell. The chaplain offers to deliver the sacrament three times in the year; he preaches and distributes tracts for the express purpose of illustrating its object and nature. There is no schoolmaster and no regular instruction. Four pounds are annually placed at his disposal, in order to purchase books for the prisoners, and books are well supplied. The chaplain has discharged the duties of his office during 19 years

He is a co-brother of St. John's Hospital, at which place he reads prayers once a-week; but this happens at the time of day when the prisoners are at dinner. He has no separate room set apart for his own use. He sometimes attends at the hour when a prayer is read by the prisoner, in order to ascertain that order is preserved. No committee of ladies is in the habit of visiting the female prisoners.

The chaplain has found that some few prisoners have received the sacrament, at some former period; and he has known some prisoners who had imbibed good notions on religious matters before their admission here.

The chaplain, at my request, has communicated to me some facts illustrative of the moral and religious statistics of the prisoners under his charge during the latter half of the year 1837:—

"Those minute particulars, which give the individual cast of character and conduce to accuracy of judgment, cannot be transmitted without an entire transcript of the entries; and even then they could not be depended upon, as the greater part of prisoners present themselves under constraint, if not under disguise. Rogues and vagabonds are seldom disposed to develope themselves, either to the religious reformer or the moral philosopher; and if they had such a disposition, the portrait might not be an exact copy of the original. The man who sits for his mental likeness, insensibly gives that sedateness to his character which, when influencing the external features, often defeats the pencil of the artist. It is in the free exercise and unrestrained play of the muscles, that the true character is developed. And hence a smile cannot be repressed when those, who are familiar with the inmates of a gaol, read the popular reports of amateur visitors.

"A digest of the entries which I have made since the 1st of August last, produces the following results:—

51 single men,
39 married,
4 widowers.

The maximum of children to a parent 6.
The sum total of children . . . 66.

During the same time were committed—

13 women, of whom
10 were single, and
3 married.

The sum total of their children . . 8.
Of which number a single woman had 1.

Of the men there were—

64 Churchmen,
25 Dissenters,
5 Roman Catholics.

Of the women—

3 Dissenters.

"Two men only during the whole year are entered as having received a superior education: one had learnt the Latin grammar, had practised as a surgeon, had been an engineer, and was then a soldier; the other had received a mercantile education, had been a mercantile traveller, and was also a soldier.

"It is to be observed that they, who have no religious principles at all, or none that produce any practical effect, profess to be of the church. To the question, 'What place of worship do you frequent?' the answer often is, 'When I go anywhere, I go to church.' This is meant to have a conciliatory tendency, and is designed to say, if I am not your zealous supporter I am not your professed opponent,—contemplating religion as a matter of faction: I do not, to be sure, many times give a vote, but when I do I give it for the church. In such cases it is generally acknowledged that many weeks, if not many months, have elapsed since a church has been entered. Those employed upon canals, called boatmen, declare themselves of the church, but assert that they have no opportunity of attending its services. Dissenters, particularly such as become Dissenters by choice, of whom there are not a few, are placed in a different situation: they dissent on the plea of being better instructed, and give to society a kind of tacit promise of adopting a better practice.

"Since the incorporation of the Borough Gaol with that of the County, I have been more than once struck with the difference of behaviour between the borough and county prisoners. The peasantry are generally respectful in their manner, but the mechanics seem to think insolence their privilege. I do not mean that they are abusive in their language, but contemptuous in their demeanour; they breathe such an air of equality as renders obsolete one of the clauses of the catechism, which I make the basis of my instructions,—they cannot recognise any spiritual master. They would define a chaplain of a gaol to be a pensioner of their own,—a pauper supported out of a public fund, to which they are contributors. There is now in circulation a handbill, addressed to rate-payers, with one of which I have been obligingly presented, calling upon them to withhold their rates, on the ground that part of them will be assigned to a clergyman for his attendance at the Union workhouse, and stating that if he receive such remuneration he must be required to wear the pauper's dress.

"I have only to add, that the official report does not give a correct statement of the proportion of those who have received some education, compared with the whole number of commitments: it does not include those who are enlarged upon bail, which I shall in future endeavour to ascertain."

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—No female prisoner has been removed to the

infirmary during the last seven years; but occasionally, when ill, the female prisoner has been placed in a cell containing a fire-place.

The male infirmary had seven beds in it at my visit, but there are five bedsteads not put up. Sheets are used. There is no water-closet nor night-stool. It is well ventilated.

There occurred only one death from Michaelmas 1834, to Michaelmas 1835, and no death at all from Michaelmas 1835, to Michaelmas 1836.

No lying-in has occurred here for eight years.

The surgeon attends daily; and in cases of severe illness, his visits are more frequent. He attends all corporal punishments. The male patients are placed under a male prisoner, who is held responsible to a certain extent for their behaviour. This person is selected by the gaoler. The cases of sickness are for the most part trivial, such as colds, rheumatic complaints, itch, constipation, venereal cases, and ulcers. One case of scarlatina has recently occurred. Some few cases are met with where a more liberal diet is required; but as the surgeon has full liberty to grant extra allowance, he does not consider that any person has suffered from want. I have been favoured with a very important statement by the surgeon, in reply to my inquiries, respecting some cases of scurvy, which had occurred here:—

"The total number of those who have received medicine during the year, ending on the 11th of December 1837, is 138. The number of those who have kept their bed through illness is 48; and the number who have received extra diet, 28. I beg leave further to remark, that the cases of sickness have been generally of a more important character than I have ever before known them to be. They have been, for the most part, characterised by debility, and have prevailed chiefly amongst those prisoners who have been a long time in prison. In the month of May, a man named Collins, who had been a long time in the hospital, on account of a sore leg (which was unusually indolent, and showed no disposition to heal), spoke to me of a blackness on the calf of his right leg. It was very much discoloured; the surrounding parts were swollen, hard, and painful. Indeed, it looked like the ecchymosis of a severe bruise, and I fancied, it must have arisen from a blow, although the man denied it. It increased, spreading considerably up his thigh. I found his pulse rapid, and very feeble, and shortly his gums became spongy, highly vascular, and disposed to bleed. It proved, in fact, to be a case of scurvy, a disease which has not appeared in this gaol during the 10 years I have held the appointment of surgeon. In the course of the ensuing month, five other cases of scurvy occurred, the symptoms of which, with various modifications of minor importance, corresponded generally with those of the preceding case. Each of these prisoners had been from 8 to 10 months in gaol; four of them, sentenced to hard labour, were employed at the treadmill, but the other two had done no work. They all recovered satisfactorily, by the aid of a liberal diet, with bark and mineral acid. Besides these cases, I found a considerable number of other prisoners getting weak and losing flesh. I think several of these would have become scorbutic, had not timely measures been adopted. The season was unusually severe, and the prisoners did not bear up under their deprivations so well as they generally have done. I endeavoured to ascertain what was their greatest deprivation, and I found it universally admitted, as well by the governor and other officers of the gaol, as by the prisoners themselves, that the want of something warm for breakfast was that which they felt the most severely. Gruel was formerly allowed for breakfast, but it was discontinued by an order of the magistrates, and with my concurrence in the year 1834. For a long time, we seemed to go on very well without it, but in consequence of the cases above alluded to, I thought it right, on the 3d of June last, to recommend that a basin of warm gruel be again allowed for breakfast throughout the whole establishment. The magistrates immediately complied with my suggestion, and, I am happy to state, that the most marked benefit has ensued. We have had no further cases of scurvy, and a very good state of general health has, for the most part prevailed."

On my visit I found no prisoner in the infirmary, and none labouring under scurvy. Two or three male prisoners complained to me of weakness, on my questioning them, and appeared to be really suffering from it.

Cases of Sickness and Deaths in the course of the year, from Michaelmas 1836, to Michaelmas 1837.

Slight indisposition	90
Infirmary cases	48
Greatest number of sick at one time	18
Deaths	0

General Statistics.

No. I.—Expenditure.—Total cost per annum under the following heads:—

	£.	s.	d.
Prison diet	631	13	2
Male and female clothing	78	11	8
Bedding	56	5	3
Straw	15	0	9
Extra allowance by order of the surgeon	47	18	11
Medicines	0	0	0
Carried forward	829	9	9

III.
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.
Reports on Separate Prisons.
Northamptonshire.
Northampton. County Gaol and House of Correction

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	829	9	9
Beer and spirits	0	0	0
Fuel	37	10	0
Soap	8	19	8
Gas, candles, and oil	30	6	0
Washing	0	0	0
Cooking	0	0	0
Stationery and printing	13	3	0
Books	3	18	1½
Furniture	0	0	0
Officers' salaries, fees, and emoluments	704	0	0*
Removal of prisoners to take their trials at assizes and sessions	0	0	0
Removal of transported convicts	157	14	0
Sundries not mentioned	105	9	11½
Total expenses of the prison for the year	£1,890	10	6
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison per annum	140	8	7
Average expense of prison diet per head per annum	5	15	$10\frac{3}{4}\frac{25}{109}$
Average expense of prison clothing and bedding per head per annum	1	4	$7\frac{7}{109}$
Pensions to retired officers	10	0	0

No. II.—State of the Gaol and House of Correction, in and for the county of Northampton, at the date of my visit, 25th July 1837 :—

Male prisoners for trial for felony	6
Female do. do. do.	0
Male prisoners for want of sureties to keep the peace	3
Male prisoners acquitted of felony on the ground of insanity	1
Male prisoners under sentence of transportation	14
Female do. do. do.	2
Male prisoners convicted of felony	35
Female do. do. do.	4
Male prisoners convicted under the Game Laws	17
Soldiers committed pursuant to the sentence of court martials	8
Male prisoners convicted of other offences; viz., leaving their wives chargeable to parishes, vagrants, assaults, &c. &c.	32
Females as lewd women, 2, deserting her child, 1	3
Male debtors	17
Total number	142

No. III.—Number of recommitments of those now in this prison, 24th July 1837 :—

Once	16
Twice	5
Thrice	2
Four times	2
Six times	1
Eight times	2
Eleven times	1

No. IV.—Progress in the number of Admissions during several recent years; (exclusive debtors) :—

From Michaelmas	to	Michaelmas	they were	
„ 1831	„	1832		499
„ 1832	„	1833		481
„ 1833	„	1834		655
„ 1834	„	1835		444
„ 1835	„	1836		440

The large amount of the year 1833-4 is ascribed in some part to poachers. Several individuals have been lately committed hither from the railroad works. The transfer recently, and with much judgment, accomplished of the prisoners from the borough gaol to the county gaol, will, if it continues to be carried into effect under a renewed contract, increase the number of admissions; and must be borne in mind in estimating hereafter any change in the population of this prison.

In 1835 the debtors admitted were	56
1836 „ „ „	43

Very few female debtors ever come hither.

* This item does not correspond with the enumeration of salaries subsequently given in No. VII.

No. V.—Number of Prisoners confined in this Prison in the course of the year:—

	Male.	Female.
In custody at the commencement of the year	96	6
Received under commitments, and who have not been in the custody of others	642	79
Received from the custody of other keepers, and enumerated in their returns	0	0
Committed for re-examination	5	2
Total	743	87

No. VI.—Recommitments in the course of the year:—

The number of prisoners (except debtors) confined in this prison in the course of the year who have been committed before to this or to other prisons.

	Male.	Female.
Once	49	0
Twice	28	0
Thrice	5	0
Four times and more	18	0

No. VII.—OFFICERS' SALARIES, FEES, EMOLUMENTS, &c.

Office.	Age.	When appointed.	Salaries. £.	s.	d.	Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances. £.	s.	d.	Total. £.	s.	d.	Nature of Fees, Salaries, and Emoluments.
Governor	..	1818	255	0	0	163	16	2	418	16	2	N.B.—The governor receives, over and above the salary of 255*l.*, as stated in this account, the following sums:—
Chaplain	..	1818	210	0	0	..			210	0	0	
Matron	..	1820	35	0	0	..			35	0	0	
Surgeon	..	1820	50	0	0	..			50	0	0	
Turnkey	68	1821	52	0	0	1	17	0	53	17	0	For the removal of convicts £40 0 0
Turnkey	29	1828	52	0	0	1	17	0	53	17	0	Bill of cravings 28 13 6
Turnkey	43	1829	52	0	0	..			52	0	0	Share of prisoners' earnings 27 10 0
Baker	36	1832	52	0	0	..			52	0	0	On the discharge of debtors, 13*s.* 4*d.* each 31 6 8
												Bed rents paid by debtors 30 0 0
												Attending jury at assizes and sessions 6 6 0
												£163 16 2
												The two turnkeys receive, on the discharge of each debtor, 1*s.* each, which is now paid, under the Act 55 Geo. III. by the county: this payment amounts, to each turnkey, to the sum of 1*l.* 17*s.*

No. VIII.—Receipts:—

	£.	s.	d.
Profits arising from productive labour done in the prison*	174	3	0½
Amount received for the subsistence of military prisoners	70	5	0
Amount received for the support of prisoners under contract	202	15	0
Amount of fines paid by prisoners applicable to the county rate	217	10	3
Amount received for the support of vagrants	0	0	0
Amount received from parishes for the support of illegitimate children	0	0	0
Amount received from the Exchequer for the subsistence of transports	0	0	0
Amount received for the subsistence of revenue prisoners	0	0	0
Other receipts†	157	14	0
Total	£822	7	3½

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. Two more turnkeys are required to be kept, one of whom might act as night patrol. There is a suitable room over the tread-wheel, in which one of them could sleep.

2. I found nine women in prison; there are 10 cells for women; one of which is used as a lumber-room, a part of which lumber belongs to the gaoler's family. Yet, in spite of the ample number of cells, four women were sleeping two in a bed. The general order given is, that all should sleep separate, whenever there is a cell for each. The lumber should be placed elsewhere.

3. Should imprisonment for debt be continued, the two windows looking on the street in the debtors' cell ought to be blocked up.

* £125 has been received on the baking account.
† £157 14*s.* has been received for the removal of convicts.

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Northamptonshire.

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4. The cell which is now used for the custody of the irons might be properly employed as a punishment cell, by making a large grating in the door, protected by a wooden shutter.

5. There is at present no infirmary for the females, a deficiency which ought hereafter to be supplied; but there is a cell with a fire-place, which should be always maintained in a state of preparation for the sick female prisoners, and not be applied to any other purpose.

6. Four of the cells which I have pointed out to the keeper require to have some holes bored in the doors, for the sake of better ventilation.

7. The appointment of a schoolmaster is desirable; the same individual might also act as clerk.

8. I have pointed out some alterations which would benefit the chapel, such as the erection of a solid division between the untried and the convicted, the removal of the pulpit to another situation, and some other changes, which it is the less necessary here to particularise, because they have since been carried into effect by the magistrates.

9. To place a water-closet in the male infirmary.

10. To define in writing the quantity of exercise to be taken by the prisoners placed in solitary confinement, as well as other points connected with their general treatment, such as the times at which visits are to be made to them by the officers of the prison.

11. It is impossible to enforce silence with the present complement of turnkeys, because one of them acts as miller and baker, another as porter; one must occasionally attend on the surgeon, another, sometimes on the chaplain. For the same reason, an assistant matron is required on the female side, in order to be continually in company with the women in the day-time, and to sleep near them at night.

12. A supply of combs is wanting.

NORTHAMPTON.—The Borough Gaol, or Lock-up House,

The Borough Gaol, or Lock-up House.

No longer exists as such, and is only continued at present as a lock-up house for night charges. The prisoners from the borough are committed to the county gaol and house of correction, at a fixed contract of 1*s.* daily per head. An agreement to this effect has been entered into between the county magistrates and the borough magistrates; but it has been made for the term of one year only, in order that both parties may have an opportunity of testing the results, and of reconsidering the arrangement.

DAVENTRY.—The Borough Gaol, or Lock-up House.

Daventry. The Borough Gaol, or Lock-hp House.

This is now only used as a lock-up house. It has two yards; each yard contains two cells, and a privy is in each yard. The constable supplies the prisoners with food, and makes a charge for the amount. There are wooden bedsteads, with straw mattresses, and rugs. Prisoners usually only remain here a few hours, or a day and night.

OXFORDSHIRE.

Oxfordshire.

BANBURY.—Town Gaol.

Banbury. Town Gaol.

Construction.—There is one yard, one day-room, and one large sleeping cell for the male prisoners. There are three bedsteads in this sleeping cell, and on the night previous to my visiting this prison, two prisoners slept together on each of the bedsteads; the cause of the prison being thus crowded was the event of an election. Above is the tread-wheel, and on each side of it there is a room; in one of the rooms were placed two beds, one of which was occupied by a female prisoner. It would be far better if the women were entirely confined to the second floor, which comprises three cells, in one of which there is a bedstead. The bedsteads appear almost all to have been made for containing two persons. There are fire-places in five of the rooms. There is one privy for the men, and one for the females. The great defect is the want of a yard for the use of the female prisoners. There is a pump here. The building is not secure, and is extremely contracted in its limits.

Management.—At present, the only prisoners detained here are those for trial, and summary convictions. Those who are sentenced at the sessions are sent to Oxford. The matron, who is the keeper's wife, receives no salary. There are no rules, and the discipline is of that uncertain kind which depends principally on the personal character of the gaoler and his family. All letters are previously read by the keeper. The prison is tolerably neat and clean; but many things must be corrected before this can become a place likely to deter offenders. Tobacco is allowed. There is no check on association. The contract sum paid for prisoners sent to the county gaol at Oxford is 1*s.* 4*d.* per head daily.

Labour.—The tread-wheel is the means of employment here; it acts as a force pump, and has had five prisoners working it at a time. A mill was attached for the purpose of grinding, but it was discontinued upon account of its shaking the house too much. The female prisoners wash; but there is no laundry nor convenience for washing. The women have sometimes,

I believe, been placed to work at the tread-wheel, but this is a custom which it would be better to abolish.

Diet.—The allowance of food given to each prisoner consists of 1½ lb. of bread, which is of the second quality, daily; 1½ oz. of cheese daily, 1 pint of gruel in the morning for breakfast, and also for supper at night. On Sundays, each prisoner has half a pound of meat, and a quarter of a pound of potatoes allowed him. The gaoler sends in his account every month to the town, of the expenses of the diet of the prisoners; also all the other bills which may be due.

Bedding and Clothing.—There are six rugs, five straw mattresses, and ten blankets, which are rather old; more will be required for the winter. There are about three or four suits for the men. Some clothing for the women is much wanted; there are at present only two shifts for their use.

Religious and other Instruction.—There is no chaplain here, nor chapel; but there are some religious books for the use of the prisoners.

Salaries.—The gaoler receives 40*l.*, he has no coals nor candles allowed him. For deserters and prisoners from the country he receives the payment of 1*s.* a-day; and also 6*d.* a-day for their food.

Escapes.—One woman made her escape, within the gaoler's recollection, but was retaken.

Letters.—All letters are read by the gaoler.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has been in office seven years. He receives no salary for his attendance upon the prisoners. He sends the medicines which are necessary, and charges for them accordingly. There was no influenza here in the spring; no malignant cholera occurred here. The prisoners sometimes suffer from the itch. No women have been delivered here. No death has taken place here during eight years. There is a great want of a bath for the use of the prisoners.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Expenditure during the year 1836:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
January	4	13	4½
February	6	5	5¾
March	7	15	10½
April	8	16	3½
May	5	5	2½
June	5	5	2
July	4	6	11½
August	4	7	0
September	4	5	11½
October	3	18	6½
November	6	2	4
December	4	14	6½

No. II.—Surgeon's Bill during last 12 months, 1*l.* 6*s.*

No. III.—Charge for conveyance of prisoners under sentence to the county gaol, at Oxford, at . . . . . £1 0 0 for one.
Ditto . . . . . 1 10 0 for two.
Ditto . . . . . 1 15 0 for three.

No. IV.—Nine prisoners have been sent to Oxford during the last 12 months. The superintendent of police takes them thither.

No. V.—From 13th June 1836, to 26th July 1837, there have been 41 prisoners admitted, of whom 12 were women. No debtor has been here during that time; but there were some here a year and a half ago.

No. VI.—Account Books and Registration:—
The only books kept here are a visiting magistrates' book, and a gaol register.

No. VII.—At the time of my visit in July 1837, I found eight men in confinement, and two women. This is the largest number which has been here at one time during the year. During last year, the average number scarcely amounted to four.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. No alterations that can be made in the present building are likely to render it permanently a suitable place of confinement for convicted prisoners. But, supposing it to be employed henceforth as a prison for untried persons only, and for those who are summarily convicted, several improvements are essential. And, indeed, in this latter restricted sense it must still

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remain an establishment too contracted in space, admitting of communication by eye, mouth, and ear, in almost every direction, and in spite of all prevention.

2. Considering the expense attendant on conveying offenders to Oxford, and the already limited accommodations of the Oxford County Gaol, it would be extremely desirable to form a district county gaol and house of correction, if the county magistrates could be induced to join. If a good establishment were thus formed, the necessity for maintaining the present most defective building would cease.

3. An arrangement should be made with a clergyman of the Established Church to perform Divine service. In that case it would be proper, if possible, to set apart one room occasionally for that purpose. In this room the keeper and the matron should always be present during Divine service. The matron should sit near the women, and a screen or curtain should be so placed as to prevent any communication between the male and female prisoners. It would be very necessary to study the security of any such apartment.

4. As there is no yard for the females (which is absolutely requisite), the best plan, under the present difficulties, would be to admit them to walk occasionally, and to sit occasionally, in the yard belonging to the gaoler. If this is practised, a shutter must be temporarily fitted on to the grated opening of the door of the men's yard. This shutter might be removed at other times, and even then conversation between the males and females will be easy, unless the matron is present to prevent the women from talking.

5. Some apparatus should be erected to enable the women who are sentenced to hard labour to wash and iron. They might be occasionally employed in general cleansing, making and mending, under the superintendence of the matron. But all this should be done in a room set apart for the purpose, and in which they can have no communication whatever with the public or with the male prisoners. The tread-wheel is not a suitable punishment for women.

6. The matron should have a small salary assigned to her, on the condition that she watches and superintends exclusively the female prisoners.

7. The women should be placed in the second floor: their ladder and privy should be improved.

8. A screen, not larger than necessary, should be placed outside the window of the second floor, which looks down into the male yard, to prevent the women from seeing the men.

9. More bedsteads are requisite, in order that the prisoners may sleep separately.

10. Rules should be drawn up and preserved in the prison. It would be desirable to print them.

11. A common metal bath should be provided.

12. Tobacco should not be admitted.

13. Silence should be enjoined so far as the circumstances of the gaol render it practicable.

14. To provide a small stock of articles of female dress, which is too scanty at present. A stock should be kept up for the destitute of both sexes.

Memorandum.—I understand from the mayor that the town council is desirous of making a new prison, but they have no power to raise the funds. I believe that every desire exists on the part of the mayor and town council to bring the prison into good condition.

PEMBROKESHIRE.

Pembrokeshire.

Haverfordwest. County Gaol and House of Correction.

HAVERFORDWEST.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction.—This building is partly formed from the walls of the old castle. It can contain, in separate sleeping cells, 45 prisoners, and so many as 58 when more than one prisoner sleeps in a cell.

The wards and yards are eight, namely,—

One ward and yard for male debtors.
„ female debtors.
„ untried women.
„ convicted women.
„ untried men.
„ occupied by a lunatic at present (not secure enough for common prisoners).

Two wards and two yards for convicted male prisoners.

The situation is elevated, and is conveniently apart from neighbouring buildings.

Management.—The vagrants are placed in the yards for convicted males. The felons are separated from misdemeanants; and the whole are classed according to character in these two wards. Every prisoner generally has a separate sleeping cell. There is an airing yard open to every day room, in which the prisoners take exercise: their meals are taken in the day rooms. During the time that they are in the day rooms or airing yards they are under no particular superintendence; but, when at the tread-mill, they are under the superintendence of the miller or taskmaster, who is the same person.

The discipline here is rather lax. Silence is not enforced; letters and visits are too easily permitted, and even tobacco is not as yet withdrawn from all the prisoners.

There is a small lock-up house in the town, consisting of two rooms. Night charges are usually taken thither; but when there are cases requiring greater security, they are brought to the county prison.

Offences and Punishments.—The chief offences within the prison are swearing, fighting, gambling, refusing to work when sentenced to hard labour, shouting to fellow-prisoners when at work at the tread-mill, or when locked up in sleeping cells, singing songs, and irreverent behaviour when in chapel. The punishment is solitary confinement in dark cells.

There has been no one whipped for a considerable time; when it has taken place the number of lashes inflicted has been about a dozen, and it has been executed in the presence of the visiting justices and surgeon.

The number of punishments has been only five from the beginning of this year to the end of August: all the offenders have been placed in dark cells, with bread and water. One was for swearing, two for shouting at work at the tread-wheel, the other for stealing a looking-glass from a fellow-prisoner, and the last for taking meal from the sack to throw in the face of the woman who was attending at the tub, by which she was nearly blinded. Handcuffs are very rarely employed: nor have leg-cuffs been used for three years. There is no underground cell here.

Number of Punishments for Offences within the Prison in the course of the Year from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836.

Dark cells.—Males, 7; females, 1.—All convicted prisoners.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain was appointed to his office 35 years ago. He was in the habit of officiating here during the 10 previous years, in the place of the former chaplain, who resided in the country. He is incumbent of St. Mary's in this town. He performs Divine service on Sundays, and delivers a sermon: he also performs Divine service on every Friday. The gaoler also reads the Liturgy to the prisoners every Wednesday. The chaplain visits occasionally when the prisoners desire to see him, and is always ready to pay them this attention. He has never administered the Sacrament, except to condemned prisoners: no prisoner has ever requested him to administer the Sacrament, nor does he recollect any instance in which a prisoner has stated to him that he had ever in the course of his life received the Sacrament. Very little knowledge of religious matters has existed amongst those committed to his charge. He has had occasion to attend three men to the gallows, none of whom manifested any signs of repentance. When he first entered upon his functions at this prison he found neither discipline nor good economy, and he bears ample testimony to the improvement which has subsequently taken place. He delivers the service in English, but when there are Welchmen present who do not understand it, he obtains the assistance of a friend. He applies for leave to the magistrates when he deems it necessary to have a fresh supply of books. There is no schoolmaster here, nor any arrangement for imparting elementary instruction to the inmates.

Registration and Account Books.

Copy of tradesmen's bills, kept by gaoler.
Bread book.
Surgeon's journal, well arranged, with printed heads.
Chaplain's journal.
Register of prisoners.
Register of debtors.
Book of Punishments: at the other end is an order book of the visiting magistrates.
Gaoler's general private register.

Officers' Salaries, Fees, Emoluments, Allowances, &c.

Officers.	No.	Salaries.			Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.			Total.			Nature of Fees, Emoluments, and Allowances.
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	
Governor	1	100	0	0	11	0	0	111	0	0	Candles, soap, and fuel.
Chaplain	1	50	0	0	..			50	0	0	. .
Matron	1	25	0	0	..			25	0	0	. .
Surgeon and medicines .	1	40	0	0	..			40	0	0	. .
Clerk to visiting magistrates	1	8	8	0	..			8	8	0	. .
Miller, same person as taskmaster	1	26	0	0	7	3	0	33	3	0	Has the same allowance of provisions as the prisoners.
Total . . .	6							267	11	0	

Solitary Confinement.

	Male.	Female.
The number of prisoners sentenced by courts of justice to solitary confinement during the year ending Michaelmas 1836 has been . .	13	1

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon attends twice every week, and oftener if required. This department is defective, as there is no infirmary. The chief disorders are the itch and venereal complaints.

Subjoined is a list of the diseases which were treated by the surgeon during the year 1836.

Injury of chest (received before admission.)
Spitting of blood.
Pain in chest and side from cold.

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Headache and pain of limbs.
Constipation.
Toothache, and pain in face.
Two cases of slight fever.
Gout.
Eleven cases of itch.
Fever.
Headache, and pain in side.
Ulcerated sore throat, and general debility.
Eight cases of venereal disorders.
General debility.
Severe pain in back.
Three cases of severe cold.
Debility and scalded head.
Two cases of debility.
Stricture.
Sore foot.
One woman was delivered of a still-born child.

The influenza, in the spring of 1837, afflicted about nine prisoners.

The surgeon can order extra allowance.

One lunatic, aged 65, has been in confinement here about 26 years.

Cases of Sickness and Deaths within the year, from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836.

	Male.	Female.
Slight indisposition	9	1
Infirmary cases	18	11
Greatest number of sick at one time . .	3	1
Deaths	0	0

Labour.—The tread-mill affords the chief hard labour. The men are also employed in pumping water, preparing fuel, and cleaning the prison. The women are occupied in washing the prisoners' clothes, baking prison bread, and in cleaning the prison. The labour is not productive. The tread-mill is employed to grind barley for the use of the prison. The untried prisoners are not employed, except in cleaning the prison, and occasionally in pumping water. Hard labour is regarded as a punishment. The tread-wheel is in use every month of the year; the hours for its employment vary from 7½ to 10. The following scale of tread-wheel labour has been delivered by the gaoler.

Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at a time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off the Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolution of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.
						Rounds.
				6,750	900	450
				7,200	960	480
				9,000	1,200	600
				9,000	1,200	600
				9,000	1,200	600
				9,000	1,200	600
				9,000	1,200	600
				9,000	1,200	600
				9,000	1,200	600
				8,100	1,080	540
				6,750	900	450
				6,750	900	450
There are two wheels. Six can work on each wheel at one time, both holding 12.	7½ inches.	48 steps per minute.	If they amount to 8, and do not exceed 24 (which is seldom the case) the same number off as on.		When there are no delays; if delays half the number of revolutions.	

The number of prisoners employed and unemployed, during the year ending Michaelmas 1836, was as follows:—

	Male.	Female.
Hard labour	95	26
Employed, not being hard labour . .	56	8
Not employed	1	4

Diet.—Two pounds and a half of the best barley bread are given daily, also three ounces and a half of good Welsh cheese; three pints of milk pottage, and three pints of oatmeal gruel are also given daily. Debtors who are unable to support themselves receive the same allowance. This diet costs about 2*s.* 9*d.* per head weekly.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Summary of Committals to the Gaol and House of Correction of the County of Pembroke, and Town and County of Haverfordwest, during the years 1825, 1826, 1827, 1828, 1829, 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835, 1836, and part of 1837, also the number of Deaths during the same years: —

Years.	Number of Warrant Prisoners.	Number of Debtors.	Total.	Number of Deaths.
1825	163	16	179	..
1826	199	17	216	..
1827	204	26	230	..
1828	156	28	184	..
1829	171	23	194	2
1830	202	25	227	1
1831	220	12	232	2
1832	246	17	263	2
1833	251	34	285	..
1834	409	14	423	..
1835	283	30	313	..
1836	245	33	278	..
1837*	197	26	223	..
Total . .	3,146	301	3,247	7

No. II.—List of Prisoners in the Gaol and House of Correction for the County of Pembroke, and Town and County of Haverfordwest, on 2d September 1837, the date of my visit:—

Class of Prisoners.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Debtors	14	..	14
Unconvicted felons	1	1	2
,, misdemeanants	1	1	2
Convicted felons	3	..	3
,, misdemeanants	1	..	1
,, of common assaults.	4	..	4
,, of robbing gardens (Larceny Act).	3	..	3
Under sentence of courts martial	2	..	2
Offences against the game laws	1	..	1
Vagrants	1	..	1
For want of sureties to keep the peace. . .	1	..	1
Lunatics.	1	..	1
	33	2	35
Sentenced to hard labour	4	..	4

No. III.—Number of Prisoners confined in this Prison in the course of the year, from Michaelmas 1835 to Michaelmas 1836:—

	Male.	Female.
In custody at the commencement of the year . .	29	4
Received under commitments, and who have not been in the custody of others	232	46
Total	261	50

No. IV.—Ages of those for and from Assizes and Quarter Sessions:—

	Male.	Female.
Under 12 years	5	1
12 years and under 14	1	2
14 years and under 17	10	1
17 years and under 21	29	4
21 years and under 30	58	20
30 years and upwards	49	10
Total	152	38

* Up to 2d September 1837.

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No. V.—State of Instruction of Prisoners (as above):—

	Male.	Female.
Can neither read nor write	37	11
Can read only	41	21
Can read or write, or both imperfectly	63	4
Can read and write well	11	2
Total	152	38

No. VI.—The greatest number of Prisoners at any one time in the course of the year: Male. 45 Female. 7

No. VII.—The number of Prisoners (except Debtors) who have been committed before to this or to any other prison:—

	Male.	Female.
Once	11	2
Twice	5	1
Thrice	3	..
Total	19	3

No. VIII.—Total cost, per annum, under the following heads:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total cost of prison diet	200	5	8¼
„ male and female clothing	26	17	10
„ bedding	17	10	2
„ extra allowances, by order of surgeon	12	5	6½
„ beer and spirits	.	.	.
„ fuel	43	10	0
„ soap	8	10	0
„ candles	2	16	4
„ washing blankets	2	10	6
„ stationery, including	5	15	4
„ books	4	2	6
„ furniture	12	15	4
„ officers' salaries, fees, and emoluments	267	11	0
„ removing of transported convicts	89	6	0
„ sundries, not mentioned	38	15	8
Total expenses of the prison for the year	£732	11	11¾
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison, per annum, (1836)	60	2	1
Average cost of prison diet per head, per annum	6	1	8
Ditto of prison clothing and bedding per head, per annum	1	2	9¾

Total expenses of prison for the year:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total expenses of prison for the year	732	11	11¼
Total receipts of ditto	163	15	5¼
Actual cost to the county, city, or borough, not including alterations and additions	568	16	6

No. IX.—Nature and amount of the receipts:—

	£.	s.	d.
Profits arising from productive labour done in the prison	.	.	.
Amount received for support of prisoners under contract	101	15	5¼
Amount of fines paid by prisoners applicable to the county rate	4	5	0
Other receipts	57	15	0
Total	£163	15	5¼

No. X.—Inventory of clothing and bedding.

Number of Articles.	Male.	Female.
Jackets	21	4
Trousers	13	..
Shirts	31	..

Number of Articles.	Male.	Female.
Shoes	16	4
Shifts	..	12
Beds	34	8
Rugs	83	16
Pillow cases	37	8
Towels	8	4
Blankets	45	8
Petticoats	..	4

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To make new rules.

2. In these rules to define the discipline of prisoners placed in solitary confinement; as, for instance, to declare whether or not such prisoners are to have any exercise in the open air. I found a soldier thus placed, who had been in the cell 15 days, without going out of it. It would be more safe that the gaoler should possess a positive direction on this head. In my own opinion, whenever solitary confinement exceeds three days, it would be proper to allow the prisoner an hour's exercise daily in the yard. This exercise of one hour might be taken at two separate times—half an hour in the morning and half an hour in the afternoon. In my own opinion, also, the bread and water diet should not be continued longer than a confinement of three days; after that short term, the ordinary diet of prisoners not on hard labour might reasonably be resumed.

3. To abolish tobacco for all, excepting the debtors.

4. To enjoin silence.

5. To restrict visits and letters, according to the recommendation of the Lords' Committee, which has been sanctioned in a circular letter by the Home Secretary.

6. To improve the ventilation of the dark cell of the male prisoners.

7. To arrange one of the female cells as a dark cell for the female prisoners.

8. To abolish the usage of employing female prisoners at the tread-wheel; that usage has ceased in nearly all prisons.

9. To appropriate the large room in ward 7 (which has a fire-place) as an infirmary for male sick prisoners *exclusively;* to keep three bedsteads and a night-stool constantly there.

10. To appropriate as a female infirmary *exclusively* the cell on the convicted females' side, which has a fire-place; to fit it up in a similar manner, and to provide sheets for both infirmaries.

11. To discontinue fires in the day-rooms during summer. If food is brought in for the untried, it should be introduced ready dressed.

12. To introduce the *breaking of stones* as an occasional hard labour for those who are pronounced unfit to work at the tread-wheel, as well as when there are not a sufficient number of prisoners to work the tread-wheel. A shed should be built in the yard if this sort of labour is sanctioned, in order to protect the prisoners during wet weather.

13. In the two cells, with very large windows, which are generally used for vagrants, it would be desirable to close up at least *the lower half* of the windows. At present these windows impart to the cells too much the character of a comfortable home.

14. Considering the large usual number of inmates, it would be prudent that one male officer should *always* sleep in the prison in addition to the *gaoler*. Such a plan is essential to the security of the prison. The miller and turnkey might sleep in the prison *alternately;* and the pantry, or the lunatics' apartment, might be fitted up as a chamber for that purpose.

15. To make a suitable pew in the chapel for the gaoler's family and matron, in front of the pulpit.

16. To subtract a portion of the chapel from the female side of the chapel, in order to add it to the male part, which is rather wanting in space.

17. To define the prison diet in writing, in which it does not exist at present; it appears to be a diet of usage, not of rule.

RADNORSHIRE.

PRESTEIGN.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Construction. (See General Statistics No. II.)—The gaol stands apart from the town, and is not overlooked by any other building; it was built in the year 1820, at a cost of about 4,000*l.* Its greatest defect is that there are no specific cells set apart for the women; they have only a day-room and a yard for their exclusive use. The male prisoners' day-rooms are close; they have stoves in them which are very inconvenient, and they have no window except one that is over the door. The chapel is large and airy; there is also a wash-house and a kitchen. Each ward is supplied with water, and there is a separate privy to each. At present the cells are not heated in any way; there are fire-places in the two infirmary rooms, which are near the governor's apartments, and in the day-rooms. There is no boundary wall to the gaol.

The prison will contain 32 prisoners, in separate sleeping cells. There are four wards, two work-rooms, one work-yard, and four airing-yards.

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The debtors' rooms are large and convenient: all have fire-places. No other rooms or cells have fire-places, except the day-rooms. The dimensions of each cell are eight feet by seven; the height is eight feet and half.

This is not a dry prison in all seasons.

Management.—The cells are sufficiently large to admit of solitary confinement, provided that the prisoners are taken out either to work or to take exercise for two or three hours; but they are too small for the prisoners to remain in them night and day, without exercise in the open air. They are light enough for reading and writing in. There is no glass in the windows of the cells; only a wooden shutter. In the solitary cell an iron shutter, bored with holes, is put up externally, a plan which renders it too dark to read or write in.

The longest period that a prisoner has been in solitary confinement, since the gaoler has been here, was one month. He was allowed 15 minutes or half an hour in the day, for exercise in the yard. Neither the chaplain or surgeon ever visited him during the time he was in separate confinement; but he received visits from the gaoler three times in the day. Prisoners are rarely, at present, sentenced to solitary confinement. The prisoners are unlocked at seven o'clock in the summer, and at sunrise in the winter; they are locked up at sunset during the summer months, and before dark in the winter. None of the prisoners sleep together; each has an iron bedstead, made only for one person. The female insane prisoner sleeps in one of the cells appropriated to the male prisoners. The prisoners associate in their day-rooms.

The whole building is neatly maintained, and the gaoler appears attentive to his duties; he has been here 10 years. Silence does not appear to have been as yet distinctly enjoined by the magistrates. Tobacco is prohibited. There is not always an officer present in the labour-yard. I found a newspaper in the convicts' day-room. Towels are allowed, but there are no combs provided for the prisoners. The means of inspection are moderate. The keeper is present at meals.

The Report of the Lords' Committee on Prisons has never been sent hither.

Visits are only permitted after six months' imprisonment in the case of the convicted, and the gaoler or turnkey is always present.

Letters.—All the prisoners' letters are read by the governor.

Escapes.—During the period of 10 years there have been three prisoners who made their escape, but all of them were retaken.

Diet.—The prisoners are allowed one loaf of good bread, weighing 2 lbs., the cost of which is 4*d*. Salt also is supplied. They have no other article of food given them. The untried, if they like it, may be maintained by their friends.

Labour.—The only labour which occupies the prisoners is breaking stones, at which employment they are kept for seven hours during summer, and nine hours a-day in the winter. The hours of labour are eight to one, and from two to six in summer; in winter they are from nine to one, and again after two o'clock.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs Divine service with a sermon on Sunday mornings. He occasionally visits the prisoners in the week, and also when they are sick; he has never delivered, or indeed offered to administer, the sacrament since he has been here. He never gives any instruction to the prisoners in reading, nor has he ever conversed with the female prisoners, of whom there have been only two or three since he has been chaplain. He sometimes sends tracts to the prisoners, but has received no instructions from the magistrates, who have promised to send a better supply of books; these are at present scanty in number; it would be desirable to allot to the chaplain a small annual sum for the purpose of procuring such religious books as might be required for the use of the prisoners. The conduct of the prisoners is generally good; the debtors attend Divine service invariably. By leave of the magistrates, the chaplain officiates here as the curate to the rector of the parish, who is blind; but he has no other duty besides the curacy.

The chaplain lives in the town, and has filled this office for 18 months. He does not imagine, from what he knows of the inhabitants, that they feel any particular repugnance or disagreeable impression as to entering gaol.

In one summer quarter of the year 1836, there were only two religious services performed in the prison, in consequence of the absence of any one prisoner.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon visits the prison once a-week, but whenever he is sent for he attends. He is desirous that the diet of the prisoners should return to its former scale; not, however, from his having observed any prisoner suffer from the present system. He sometimes, but rarely, has ordered a little extra diet when necessary. The prisoners are always examined by him when they first come into prison, and are always bathed and washed whether they labour under any complaint or not: the surgeon would be very glad to see a bath fixed in the prison, for the use of the prisoners. There has been no disease in the prison since January 1837, nor, with the exception of about two cases of venereal disorder, has there been any disease during that and the preceding year. No prisoner has been confined to his or her bed, on account of illness, during the last year and a half. There was no epidemic cholera either in the town or prison; a little influenza prevailed in the town, but there was not a case in prison during the spring. The prison has been free from the itch for three or four years. During 10 years there have only been three deaths—

1 male debtor above 70,
2 females, one above 80,
the other above 70.

There has been no suicide, nor attempt to commit it, during the time the gaoler has lived here. There is one insane female prisoner, aged 24 years, who has been in prison for 12 months, for attempting to murder her sister. The surgeon has held his office for 12 or 14 years. He knows a very respectable man, who was a prisoner in the old gaol for the serious offence of sheep-stealing; he is now a reformed and a good character, has brought up his family rightly, and is himself well to do in the world.

The prison is remarkably healthy, and the surgeon recollects no epidemics there.

Rules.—There are no printed ones. Some manuscript ones were made in 1836, and subsequently.

Executions.—There has been only one here during 10 years: this was for murder.

Salaries.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Keeper (receives coals, soap, and brushes, but no candles) .	80	0	0
Matron (receives no salary).			
Chaplain	25	0	0
Surgeon (finds medicines)	20	0	0

There is no turnkey as yet appointed; but the gaoler's son assists him, and receives 3*s.* 6*d* per week. When the gaoler is absent on public business, his son receives 3*s.* 6*d.* a-day.

Registration and Account Books.—The chaplain's and the surgeon's journal, the magistrates' book, the bread book, and the register.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Number of Inmates at the Date of my Visit.

On 1st November 1837, the number of Prisoners in Custody was—

5 male debtors,
6 convicted felons,
2 summary convictions,
2 untried felons,
1 female lunatic.

No. II.—Construction.

Number of Wards and Cells in the Gaol:—

9 debtors' separate cells,
10 felons' cells in the gaol side, including one dark cell, or solitary cell,
10 cells in the House of Correction, including one solitary or dark cell,
2 cells underground (not used at present).
2 hospital rooms.

The yards are four—one debtors', one women's, one in the gaol, and one in the House of Correction. There are three day-rooms.

No. III.—Progressive View of the Number of Committals:—

In the year 1829	29
„ 1830	35
„ 1831	38
„ 1832	41
„ 1833	32
„ 1834	33
„ 1835	24
„ 1836	31
„ 1837	32
	295

Number of Debtors:—

In the year 1829	4
„ 1830	9
„ 1831	4
„ 1832	8
„ 1833	5
„ 1834	4
„ 1835	3
„ 1836	3
„ 1837	7
	47

No. IV.—Ordinary Number of Prisoners:—

Not two female ones are here at once, on an average. The prison was quite empty during six weeks of the year 1836, and the doors were happily thrown open. In July of the same

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year the officiating chaplain performed Divine service during the month to only one prisoner. The greatest number of prisoners at one time here, during the last year, has been 13 men and 3 women.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. A curtain to be put up in the front of the female pews in the chapel, and a door to separate them from the male debtors.
2. To use the sick female room as a sleeping cell for women for the present.
3. The male sick room to be cleared of the master debtors, and appropriated exclusively for the sick men, with a night-stool.
4. A window to be made in each of the male day-rooms.
5. To distinguish between solitary confinement and confinement for the refractory; at present the solitary confinement cell is darkened so that the prisoners cannot read.
6. To set apart one room on the debtors' side as a conference-room for the chaplain.
7. To appoint a turnkey immediately with a fixed salary, who shall sleep in the gaol. The gaoler's son acts as such, but he only receives 3*s.* 6*d.* a-week, and his appointment is not understood to be a permanent one.
8. To give up the use of the two underground cells. It is true that they have only been used rarely, and for three or six hours at a time.
9. The two infirmary rooms are damp at this time; perhaps something is wrong in the roof.
10. To use the female infirmary as a sleeping room for female prisoners, until the subject of imprisonment for debt is decided, when, if abolished, the debtors' cells might be allotted to the women; but, if the present law remains, then the women should have a ward built for them.
11. To improve the diet, which still need not amount to more than the present loaf, 4*d.* a-day.
12. To enjoin silence, and to place a turnkey constantly in the labour-yard during the hours of labour.
13. To regulate the discipline of solitary confinement, as to exercise, &c.
14. To whitewash twice a-year; the prison has not been whitewashed for more than a year past.
15. A strong door to the prison, and an iron gate inside with a spring-lock at the entrance, are wanted.
16. To supply a prison register, with printed headings and columns.
17. A receiving cell is wanted.

New Radnor. Borough Gaol and Debtors' Prison.

NEW RADNOR.—BOROUGH GAOL AND DEBTORS' PRISON.

Construction.—This humble establishment is better described as a road-side cottage than by the title which its application has assigned to it above. It is under the jurisdiction of the bailiff, recorder, capital burgesses, and aldermen. The scanty premises consist of the keeper's dwelling, two cells and one yard, in which there is a privy. There is no separate accommodation for female prisoners, but this deficiency has not been much felt, because only one female prisoner has been admitted here during the residence of the present keeper; she was placed in a separate room up stairs, adjoining the gaoler's room. There has been some idea of erecting a new prison; but it would be far more expedient to contract with the county for the maintenance of all prisoners in the County Gaol at Presteign; in which case the present building might be retained as a lock-up house, for which purpose alone it is suited. The whole is in bad condition. There is no pump on the premises.

Management.—The keeper receives the very insufficient salary of 10*l.* a-year, and is obliged to seek some additional means of subsistence by doing an occasional day's work in the neighbourhood. He is serjeant-at-mace, for which he derives no emolument, and occasionally earns a trifle by serving mesne processes; he has no other perquisites nor fees, nor does he receive any coals for his own use. Tobacco is prohibited. Visits are only permitted by order of a magistrate, and the keeper is always present. The keeper reads all letters. Few prisoners sentenced to hard labour are committed hither, nor indeed is any labour carried on here; but there would be no difficulty in compelling the prisoners sentenced to hard labour, if any, to break stones in the yard. At the time of my visit, 1st November 1837, I found two prisoners here, one for debt and the other for a misdemeanour. They were sleeping in the same bed; but the gaoler states that another bedstead is ordered. The gaoler is married. There are two visiting magistrates; but there is no journal nor register whatever.

Diet.—Each prisoner receives 1½ lbs. of seconds bread daily, and no other allowance. Coals and soap are supplied for the use of the prisoners. There is no stock of clothing whatever. The bedding is not deficient in quantity, but it is not clean. There are no combs nor towels.

Religious and other Instruction.—The curate of the parish makes an occasional visit here; but such acts are voluntary on his part, and receive no pecuniary recompence. I found one Testament here. This gentleman sends in some tracts occasionally.

Care of the Sick.—If the services of a medical man are required, the keeper sends to Presteign; but no regular provision is made for such aid.

Escapes.—During 12 years that the keeper has resided here one prisoner escaped, but was retaken.

Expenditure.—The small cost of this gaol is defrayed by the borough. There is a borough rate.

General Statistics.—From the 1st of January to the 1st of November 1837, four prisoners only have been admitted, of whom one was a debtor. The greatest number at one time, during the last year, has been two.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To increase the diet by the addition of three pints of gruel and 1 lb. of potatoes daily; if any prisoners should be actually engaged in hard labour, they ought to receive an extra half pound of potatoes daily. A small allowance of salt should also be made.
2. To raise the salary of the keeper, so that his attention may be exclusively devoted to his office.
3. To repair the premises, and particularly to place a new and efficient spring-lock and iron bar on the outer door, and to strengthen the inner door, which is quite insecure.
4. To preserve a prison register, with proper columns, and also a journal, in which the visiting magistrates may record their remarks.
5. If imprisonment for debt continues, to prepare one cell exclusively for the use of debtors. At present the debtors and the other prisoners are placed indiscriminately together.
6. To set apart one cell or room exclusively for the use of female prisoners.
7. To supply additional bedsteads, some clothing for the destitute, towels and combs, and a few more religious books.

SHROPSHIRE.

BRIDGNORTH.—Debtors' Gaol, Borough Gaol, and Lock-up House.

Construction.—The gaol is a low range of building adjoining the workhouse. The gaol consists of one day-room and two cells for the male prisoners on the ground-floor, and one day-room and two cells for the women on the upper floor. It might be much enlarged by taking in a yard and garden, situated at the back of the prison, belonging to the town-council. Another yard for the women is required; there is only one yard at present for all the prisoners. There is only one privy in the yard, consequently the women are obliged to be brought down to it. There is no chapel. No pump is here; the gaoler is obliged to fetch the water which is used from the conduit in the street. The prison is very insecure. There are no separate apartments for debtors; but there has been no debtor since the gaoler has been appointed, although it is a debtor's gaol. As the gaoler does not live on the spot, the communication is easy between the men and the women at all times. There are necessary stools in the male prisoners' cells. There is no boundary wall, nor kitchen nor laundry. A culvert has lately been made to carry off the water. The windows are in bad repair.

Management.—There are only five bedsteads for the use of the prisoners; the prisoners sleep two in a bed. The gaoler has always found soap for the prisoners, as there is no allowance of this article; he also supplies them with salt at his own expense. Towels are allowed in the prison, but no combs. One female was committed on the 24th of last May, and was kept here for one month till the 23d of June; she was then sentenced for one week's further imprisonment at the Quarter Sessions. One deserter has been here about 20 days, during which time he was unwell. If a depredation or offence is committed in the borough, and the offender is ordered for trial at the quarter sessions, he may have occasion to wait here for three months. Prisoners sentenced to hard labour go to the county gaol at Shrewsbury; but if sentenced to imprisonment without hard labour, they remain here. No prisoner has been placed in solitary confinement since the present gaoler has been here; indeed solitary confinement, as well as silence among the prisoners, is quite impracticable at present. The borough pays to the county for the support of the prisoners at Shrewsbury 7*s.* a-week. Coals are supplied; the quantity necessary is ordered by the gaoler. The gaoler or his wife visit the prisoners in the morning, at mid-day, and in the evening, at the hours of locking up. The gaoler is a saddler by trade; he was appointed to the office in December 1836. The conduct of the prisoners is usually good.

Clothing.—There are three suits of party-coloured clothes for the men; but no shoes, stockings, or shirts, are found for them, nor any dress for the women. The gaoler's wife has occasionally lent linen. Four mattresses, stuffed with straw, and 12 rugs, comprise the bedding. Sheets and blankets were to have been used in the prison, but there are none at present given.

Registration and Statistics.—There is one register only, beginning 7th December 1836. From that time to 23d June 1837, there had been 30 prisoners admitted, of whom about 8 were women. Since then 7 or 8 more have been admitted, but have not been entered yet into the register, as the gaoler makes up his accounts every fortnight. There were no prisoners here on 22d July 1837, at the time of my visit.

All letters to convicted prisoners are inspected first by the keeper, or by a magistrate.

No visits are allowed to be paid to the prisoners without an order from the mayor, or committing magistrate.

Diet.—Each prisoner is allowed 1½ lb. of best bread daily. For breakfast the prisoners have half a pint of gruel. On Sundays, for dinner, they have half an ounce of butter. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 1¼ lb. of boiled potatoes. On Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, half a pint of soup, made from meat; but the meat is not given to them. For supper on Sundays they have half a pint of gruel; and also on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. On the other three days they have half a pint of soup.

Religious and other Instruction.—There is neither chapel nor chaplain here. In case of illness the gaoler applies to the rector of the parish, who comes and visits the prisoners. He only comes on such occasions.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—There is no regular surgeon here. There have been two cases of illness since December 1836. In these instances the gaoler applied for medical advice to the mayor, who gave him an order to a surgeon to attend the sick prisoner. There is no infirmary nor bath. There has been no attempt to commit suicide during the gaoler's experience.

Fire.—There has been one alarm from fire; the prisoner's clothes were burnt in the day-room.

Greatest Number of Inmates at one time.—The greatest number of prisoners who have been here at one time, since December 1836, were nine, of whom two were women.

Salaries.—The gaoler receives 6*d.* a-day per head for the superintendence of each prisoner, and 6*d.* a-day for the diet; he is bound to supply the diet stated in the above table. He receives no other perquisite whatever. His wife acts as matron voluntarily and without any emolument; she has never been directed to attend the female prisoners.

Labour.—No labour of any kind is enforced here.

Books.—There are no books belonging to the prison. The gaoler has occasionally lent some to the prisoners himself.

Visiting Magistrates.—The mayor and a visiting magistrate have been here three or four times since 6th December 1836.

Rules.—Some manuscript rules, signed by the mayor, were furnished to the gaoler soon after his appointment. Tobacco is forbidden. A chaplain and surgeon are mentioned in these rules, but have not been appointed. Sheets and blankets were also designated in the rules, but have not as yet been supplied; nor indeed are sheets suitable for the use of a gaol, except in case of illness. Spirits and ale are not allowed.

The Lock-up House.—There is a lock-up house, or rather a cell, apart from the prison, under the gateway (north gate). This is under the charge of the parochial watchmen, from September till May; but during the rest of the year there are no watchmen, and all night-charges are brought to the prison. The gaoler is a constable, and is often called out to act as such.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To make cells and a yard for female prisoners separate from those appropriated for male prisoners, with a day-room, privy, and bathing tub; with a proper supply of sheets, blankets, female apparel, soap, salt, and combs.
2. The ward for male prisoners to be furnished with a small stock of sheets, blankets, and prison dress; soap, salt, and combs to be supplied. A bathing tub and separate privy to be provided for the male prisoners.
3. A room for Divine service to be fitted up.
4. Religious books to be supplied.
5. Separate beds to be provided for each prisoner.
6. A surgeon and a chaplain to be appointed.
7. To preserve journals for the use of magistrates, chaplain, and surgeon.
8. Silence to be enjoined.
9. Each court-yard to be supplied with water.
10. A gaoler to be appointed, with a salary, who should attend to no other business without the walls.
11. The gaoler's wife to be appointed matron, to attend exclusively to the female prisoners, and to receive a small gratuity for her services.
12. The gaoler and his wife to reside on the spot.
13. To prepare a room, or cell, for the use of the sick.

The council of the borough have communicated to me that they entirely acquiesce in, and are about to carry into effect, all the above suggestions, except the appointment of a gaoler, to attend *exclusively* to the gaol; and the council offer the following reasons for their objection to the last-mentioned appointment:—

First,—That the duties of the borough gaol have never occupied a gaoler a fourth part of his time, the whole number of prisoners committed for trial, from the revival of the borough, quarter sessions, in December 1834, to the present time (27th October 1837), having been only 19.

Second,—That the borough of Bridgenorth has the right of sending its prisoners to the county gaol, under the local Act for building that prison; and all the prisoners committed in execution, save those for short periods, have always been sent to the gaol of the county, under the authority mentioned.

Third,—That the appointment of a gaoler to attend *exclusively* to the gaol, would entail a very considerable expense on the borough, which may be readily obviated in a way consistent with an efficient discharge of the office of gaoler by the appointment of a man and his wife, who, at a reduced salary, and with the advantages to be derived from some sedentary employment, to be carried on within the precincts of the gaol and requiring no absence, would be at all times in a situation to afford their active services as gaoler and matron, whenever required.

LUDLOW.—Town Gaol.

Construction.—The gaol is overlooked by one building, which has in it a door and small window. It is extremely small and inconvenient.

It contains one large yard adjoining the gaoler's garden.

On the ground-floor are two cells, one of which appears to be intended for a dark cell. A small day-room communicates with these two cells, in which is a fire-place. There is a large debtor's room on the first floor, and a large criminal's cell, both of which have a fire-place in them. There is one privy.

There is no pump, and the water for the use of the prisoners is conveyed through pipes.

A station-house has been taken from the old prison, containing three cells. The window of one of these station-cells looks upon the prison-yard, and communication becomes extremely easy.

Management.—The gaoler has been here three years and a quarter; he has no trade, but is superintendant of police, for which he receives 10*l.* a-year; he has fifty guineas yearly, with coals and candles, as keeper of the prison. Tobacco is not allowed. It is impossible to maintain a good discipline in the present building. There are no printed rules.

Diet.—The allowance made to the prisoners is gruel every morning and evening, a 2 lb. loaf of the best bread, potatoes, and a slice of meat or of bacon daily.

Account Books and Registration.—There is only one register-book kept and one account-book.

Visits.—No one is allowed to visit the prisoners without an order from the mayor or magistrate.

Letters.—All letters are first read over before going out of the gaol by the gaoler, and those which enter by the mayor.

Bedding and Clothing.—There are 5 mattresses, 10 blankets, 5 rugs, and 10 sheets. There are 4 suits of clothes for the male prisoners; only 4 shifts are provided for the women. There are no shoes nor stockings found for the prisoners.

Religious and other Instruction.—None such existed at the time of my visit. There is no chapel and no chaplain.

Punishment.—If the prisoners require punishment the gaoler locks them up for a few hours in the day. He never reduces the diet.

Labour.—The prisoners are employed in breaking stones, with which the gaoler used to mend the streets. The prisoners now receive no profit from their labour.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—There is a surgeon appointed, to whom the gaoler applies when necessary. One prisoner has suffered from itch during the year. The prisoners occasionally have colds, but suffer from no other complaints. There was no influenza here in the last spring. During three years no death has taken place.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Expenditure:—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
The expenditure of the 1st quarter of the year 1836 was	2	1	0
„ 2d quarter	5	19	6
„ 3d quarter	8	9	11
„ 4th quarter	9	6	2

The above items included all the expenses, except coals, soap, and repairs.

No. II.—Progress of the Population (including Debtors):—

The number of prisoners from	Michaelmas 1825	to Michaelmas 1826	was	9
„	Michaelmas 1826	to Michaelmas 1827	„	14
„	Michaelmas 1827	to Michaelmas 1828	„	18
„	Michaelmas 1828	to Michaelmas 1829	„	8
„	Michaelmas 1829	to Michaelmas 1830	„	7
„	January 1831	to December 1831	„	1
„	during the year 1832	. . . . .	„	10

I found no return for the year 1833.

The number of prisoners during the year	1834	. . . . .	„ 4
„ „	1835	. . . . .	„ 9
„ „	1836	. . . . .	„ 30
„ „	1837	. . . . .	„ 17

No. III.—Since the commencement of the register, which began at Michaelmas 1825, I find that there have been 11 debtors out of the entire number of prisoners whom I have mentioned. There was no debtor at the time of my visiting this prison. The last debtor who had been there came in the year 1835 and left in the year 1836, after an imprisonment of 16 months' duration.

No. IV.—The greatest number of prisoners in the prison at one time, during the year 1837, was 12

Of whom were women 4

III. Southern and Western District. — Reports on Separate Prisons. — *Shropshire.* Ludlow. Town Gaol.

No. V.—The greatest number of prisoners at one time seldom exceeds 5; there are often only 3, exclusively of the night-charges committed to the station cells.

No. VI.—I found only one prisoner here; he was under sentence of transportation waiting the order. He had been confined here during six weeks.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. There is no room here set apart for the performance of Divine service, nor is there any chaplain.

2. There has been no appointment of a matron, nor has any female received instructions to execute that office when its duties are requisite.

3. It would be advantageous to relieve the keeper from the duties of superintendent of police, which interfere with his own functions; he has sufficient business to attend to within the walls of the prison.

4. To appoint a fixed diet for the prisoners, instead of allowing them to be fed by the keeper, who receives 6*d.* daily per head for that purpose.

5. To have separate beds and separate mattresses: at present two individuals are sleeping in the same bed.

6. To supply religious books, of which I found none.

7. The large cells (or rather rooms) may be divided into two parts, and thus a greater number of cells may be obtained. The present room for debtors may be also converted into two separate cells; and the criminal cell on the upper floor might in that case be appropriated as a debtors' cell.

8. To make rules.

WELLINGTON.

1. Lock-up House.

Wellington. 1. Lock-up House.

A detached building has been lately erected at the expense of the county. The cost of the building and fittings amounted to about 350*l.* It contains four cells, each containing a wooden bedstead and a privy: the bedsteads are supplied with straw. The key is kept by the constable: he is allowed 6*d.* a-day for the food of each prisoner. Prisoners usually remain here no longer than a night: in one case the present constable declares that a prisoner remained about 20 days; in another instance, about a week. But such are exceptions to the ordinary practice. He has known more than four prisoners confined here at one time. At the date of my visit, 20th July 1837, no person was in confinement.

2. Debtors' Prison.

2. Debtors' Prison.

In 1672, King Charles II. granted to the Earl of Bradford, and his heirs, power to keep a court of record for the hundred of Bradford; with liberty to determine and try all manner of personal actions not exceeding 20*l.*; with power also to appoint a gaoler. The Duke of Cleveland is the present lord of the hundred of Bradford. There is also a high steward and a deputy steward; and the Duke of Cleveland, in the year 1828, appointed the present keeper to his office. The keeper is a cabinet-maker by trade, and his work-yard is the only space in which the debtors can take exercise. The keeper enjoys his dwelling free from rent and taxes; he also receives 7*s.* 6*d.* from the county rates on the discharge of each debtor, but has no other salary whatever. At the date of my visit, 20th July 1837, I found three men and one woman confined here. The woman was in a room by herself; she has no bedding of her own, and the keeper consequently places her to sleep with his own daughter in another room. There is no provision whatever for the maintenance of the prisoners in any shape, and the overseers of the parishes decline to supply any support; the female prisoner in question being entirely destitute of any resources of her own, is obliged to depend for her sustenance on casual donations. Since neither food nor bedding, nor coals nor clothing are provided here, it appears that even the keeper himself sometimes assists prisoners out of his own pocket. The whole building is insecure in the highest degree. Since the 18th of August 1826, 108 prisoners have been admitted, of whom 3 have been women. Two of the male prisoners were sleeping in one bed, because one of them had no bedding. The whole gaol is in bad repair.

Suggestions towards Improvement.

I have communicated my observations on the state of this gaol to the Duke of Cleveland, and have intimated to his grace that it would be extremely desirable that some individual appointed by him should have the means of affording relief in cases of utter destitution. I have also stated to him the expediency of setting apart two yards, one for male prisoners and the other for females, with a privy in each. The Duke of Cleveland was not aware of the circumstances to which I took the liberty of inviting his attention; but immediately after being informed of them he made an arrangement which will for the future preclude the possibility that any prisoner confined here should be indebted for the indispensable necessaries of existence to accidental alms.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

BRIDGWATER.—Borough Gaol and County Lock-up House.

Construction.—There is one day-room for the male prisoners, one day-room for the females, one yard for the men, one yard for the women. There are five cells for the men, three of which only are in use for the prisoners; the other two are occupied by the gaoler's family. There is one sleeping-cell for the women; there are other cells adjoining the debtors' rooms, but these are not sufficiently secure. The cells are very large and generally well ventilated; each of them might be converted into two, three, or four separate cells. The men's day-room is very large and might be made into four separate cells. There is a privy in each yard. The prison is not overlooked.

The state of the prison is insecure.

(See for dimensions and further details the document No. XI. of the General Statistics of Wilton prison.)

Management.—The present gaoler has been here for 12 months; besides being gaoler he holds several other offices; he is crier of the county of record and quarter sessions; hall-keeper to the town-council; bailiff to the grand juries at the assizes and at the sessions; billet-master; and is also high constable; he is sometimes called out when any row takes place; but there is also a new policeman here. The matron is the gaoler's wife; she has been ordered to attend the female prisoners, but receives no salary for her attendance upon them. During the time of the county sessions and the assizes, which are held here alternately with Wells, she receives 4*s.* 6*d.* a-day, when the number of prisoners amounts from 20 to 30; but when their number exceeds 30, she is allowed 7*s.* a-day. The gaoler takes the prisoners to Taunton; when he has only one prisoner he conveys him in a car; he seldom has any guard.

The longest period which a prisoner has remained here since the gaoler has been here was for four days. The county prisoners are sent from hence to Taunton. Both the male prisoners and the females are chained together, probably on account of the insecurity of the rooms.

The prison is clean, neat, and well ventilated. Excepting at the time of the assizes and quarter sessions, when a number of prisoners are temporarily brought hither, it appears to serve chiefly as a lock-up house.

Diet.—There is no fixed diet. When any borough prisoners are here the gaoler finds them bedding, and receives 3*s.* a-day for their maintenance and keep; this is only on common occasions; but during the sessions he provides the same food for the prisoners which he does for his own family. If a county prisoner is here for 24 hours, the gaoler charges 1*s.* 6*d.* a-day for maintaining him.

Bedding.—There are no blankets nor bedding provided for the prisoners while waiting here to take their trial at the county sessions or at the assizes, but straw only is supplied for them.

Religious and other Instruction.—There is no chapel nor chaplain here. There are three testaments left with the gaoler as clerk of the court, which he lends to the prisoners.

Salaries.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Gaoler receives only	5	0	0
Matron	..		

Escapes.—There has been no successful escape since the gaoler has been here.

Suicide.—No attempt to commit suicide has taken place.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—There is no surgeon. No prisoner has been ill since the gaoler has been here. If any prisoner were ill he would go for the parish doctor. He has received no directions what to do if such illness occurred.

General Statistics.—On 14th June 1837 I found no prisoner here; there has been one debtor during the last 12 months; he remained here 4 months.

From 19th November 1836 to 11th June 1837 there were 81 prisoners admitted from the borough, 16 of them were committed for felony, 10 of whom had been tried; 71 disorderly persons, committed usually on charges of drunkenness, and also one debtor. During the same time 23 county prisoners were admitted, who were all sent to Taunton.

(See for more complete details the document No. XI. of the General Statistics of Wilton prison.)

Suggestions towards Improvement.

It is very necessary that iron bedsteads should be made, and that a separate one should be provided, and furnished with suitable bedding, for the use of each prisoner; at present the prisoners, when they are brought here at the time of the assizes, sleep pell mell on straw. The case here and at Wells is almost the same; and the remarks which I have made more at length under the head of Wells apply also to this prison. The evil is admitted; but here, as at Wells, the difficulty arises to whether the county or the borough should bear the expense.

III.
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Somersetshire.

Ilchester. Common Gaol for the County of Somerset.

ILCHESTER.—COMMON GAOL FOR THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET.

Construction.—This prison stands apart from other buildings; it contains 5 classes, 12 wards with 12 day-rooms, and 12 yards; two of these divisions belong to the debtors. It can contain 67 prisoners in separate cells. When more than one prisoner sleeps in a cell, the building will contain 180 prisoners. The greatest number of prisoners who were confined here at one time, during the year ending Michaelmas 1835, was 136. There are nine cells, which are called solitary, but none under ground. Separate confinement is not capable of being systematically adopted here at present. The prison is not dry at all seasons. In the poor debtors' lower sleeping floor there is a small room, containing four beds, which is very close and ill ventilated, and unfit for use. The whole prison, indeed, is not particularly well ventilated. Few of the cells are light enough to read or to work in.

Management.—The keeper is aged and in bad health; his son assists him. All the prisoners sleep in separate beds, but some of the rooms contain four, six, or eight beds. The one which contains eight beds is at present unoccupied. Noise is not permitted, but no order has yet been issued enjoining silence. In each ward a prisoner acts as wardsman. Tobacco is not allowed. The prisoners take their meals in their day-rooms. There are combs and towels in each ward. The keeper has been in office 17 years; during that time three prisoners have escaped, and have been retaken; but three others have escaped finally. It appears that no great dread of the prison at present exists in the neighbourhood. No suicide has occurred during the above-mentioned period, but one prisoner attempted to hang himself. On the whole the general discipline is not rigid. The prison is neat and clean.

Registration and Account-books.—Visiting Magistrates' Journal, Chaplain's, Surgeon's, Gaoler's Occurrence Book, Gaol Register, Debtors' Book, Account Book, Transport Book, Beef Book, Description Book, Attornies' Visiting Book, Visitors' Book. (The gaoler's son keeps the books and accounts for his father; he receives no salary.)

Diet.—The untried may receive food from their friends, if they can be entirely maintained by them; in that case they may receive a pint of ale or cider daily. The cooking is performed by a male prisoner, who is assisted by some of the other male prisoners.

The following is a literal copy of the printed dietary:—

Dietary in use at Ilchester Gaol, as ordered by the Court of Quarter Sessions, April 21st, 1834, and maintained at the expense of the county, and willing to work.

To prisoners above 14 years of age,—

For breakfast, one pound of bread per day, and one pint and half of oatmeal gruel made of one ounce of meal.

For dinner, one pound and half of potatoes, with sufficient salt.

For supper, one pint of gruel made of one ounce of meal.

On Sundays for dinner, in lieu of the before-mentioned allowance for dinner, six ounces of meat without bone, and after cooking, and one pound of potatoes.

To prisoners under 14 years of age,—

For breakfast, three-quarters of a pound of bread, and one pint of oatmeal gruel.

For dinner, one pound of potatoes, with sufficient salt.

On Sundays for dinner, in lieu of the before-mentioned allowance for dinner, four ounces of beef and three-quarters of a pound of potatoes.

And all prisoners refusing to work, or who shall forfeit the before-mentioned allowances by any misbehaviour, shall receive one pound of bread daily only.

Prisoners under the care of the surgeon shall be allowed such diet as he may direct.

Labour.—Prisoners are not committed here to hard labour, but occupations of an ordinary nature are occasionally assigned to them; the women work in the laundry; the earnings, of course, amount to nothing; six hours in the winter, and nine hours in the summer, is the nominal period set apart for labour.

When a prisoner is committed hither for hard labour, he is set to break stones; and boys sometimes are placed at that work at their own request.

Prison Offences and Punishments.—The ordinary offences are improper conduct at chapel, fighting, noise, and stealing. These are punished by solitary confinement, and by reduction of the diet to bread and water while placed in solitary confinement.

Whipping.—When inflicted by sentence of court usually amounts to 24 or 30 lashes. It is performed by the executioner in the presence of the surgeon, keeper, and turnkey.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs divine service twice on Sundays, with two sermons. At half-past nine in the morning he daily reads a selection from the Liturgy; on Wednesdays and Fridays he reads the Litany in addition. He visits some part of the prison almost daily, converses with the prisoners, hears them read, and explains passages to them. There is no such instruction for the women on his part; they are sometimes taught by each other. He keeps a public journal, and a private journal of character; in the former he records the absence and cause of absence of any turnkey or prisoner. About 5*l.* annually are expended on religious books. There is a salaried schoolmaster, who comes every morning for one hour only. The chaplain is vicar of a very small parish, in which the gaol is partly situated.

Statistics of Education.—The chaplain has himself ascertained (a far more correct medium than the ordinary one of merely questioning the prisoner) that, of the 40 female prisoners admitted since the 1st of January 1837,

8 sentenced to transportation
29 time prisoners . . .
3 prisoners for trial . . .
} 9 read and write well, 10 read only, 21 neither.

40

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—I found no prisoner in the infirmary. The surgeon visits the prisoners every other day, but, if requisite, he attends them daily. He lives at Yeovil, about five miles off. There are two good infirmaries for both the male and female prisoners, having a yard and day-rooms to each of them.

A return of deaths in the gaol at Ilchester during five years, from Easter session 1832 to Easter session 1837:—

	Males.	Females.
Debtors . . .	6	0
Felons	6	2
	12	2

Total . . . . 14.

The following is a list of the diseases which have occurred here in the space of one year; the figures which follow each disease indicate the number of cases:—

Asthma, number of cases	13	Hernia, strangulated	3
Abscess, psoas	2	Do. humoralis	5
Do. and syphilis	7	Hydrocele	3
Do. and sphacelus	4	Hæmatemesis	4
Do. lumbar	2	Insanity, cases of	5
Anasarca	3	Joint, inflammation of	5
Abscesses, extensive	24	Do. diseases of	4
Amaurosis	1	Inflammation, cellular	5
Apoplexy	2	Influenza, epidemic, all occurring within a fortnight	72
Bowels, obstruction of	4	Kidney, diseased	1
Bladder, diseased	3	Liver, abscess of	1
Contusions, severe	2	Lepra vulgaris	2
Colic	7	Lungs, tubercles of	2
Colica pictonum	2	Lumbago	6
Cynanche tonsillaris	4	Neuralgia	3
Carbuncle	2	Ophthalmia	9
Cough, chronic	13	Paralysis	4
Calculus and diseased bladder	1	Phrenitis	5
Calculus	1	Phthisis pulmonalis	2
Diarrhœa and fever	27	Pleuritis	8
Dysentery	2	Pneumonia	6
Diarrhœa, simple	32	Do. subacute	11
Epilepsy	9	Peripneumonia notha	2
Enteritis	4	Pericarditis	1
Fracture, compound	1	Pyrosis	7
Fever, continued	22	Rheumatism, acute	9
Do. typhus	3	Small-pox	1
Do. inflammatory	16	Spasms, acute	5
Do. congestive	6	Stricture	9
Do. intermittent	3	Stomach, neuralgia of	5
Do. bilious	6	Synochus and pneumonia	5
Fistula in ano	1	Tympanites abdominis	1
Gout	3	Urine, suppression of	3
Gastritis, acute	3	Ulcers, extensive	22
Do. subacute	5	Wound, gun-shot	1
Gangrene	3	Do. punctured	1
Gall stones	1	Do. sphacelated	5
Hepatitis, acute	4		
Do. subacute	8		

No prisoner died of epidemic cholera or influenza. The surgeon has attended Ilchester Gaol 16 years. About 13 years since dysentery prevailed in this neighbourhood as an epidemic disease, and a great number of prisoners in the gaol suffered from it. The disease was of a very severe character, and from 9 to 13 patients were in the different infirmary rooms for some weeks, but no death occurred from it in the gaol. This, with the exception of the influenza of last year, is the only epidemic that has prevailed in the prison. The dysentery made its appearance just after a severe and long continued frost, and in the opinion of the surgeon was occasioned by unwholesome vegetable diet, as nearly all the potatoes in this neighbourhood were frozen, excepting those that were secured in underground cellars.

In the Yeovil workhouse, which the surgeon also attended at the same time, he had 62 cases of the disease. He does not think that the situation or locality of the gaol have ever been productive of disorder since he has attended.

About three years since a material alteration took place in the gaol diet (a diminution, I believe), and the surgeon certainly has observed that diarrhœa and glandular swellings of the neck have since occurred more frequently than they did prior to that time.

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Somersetshire.

Ilchester. Common Gaol for the County of Somerset.

He thinks that one in four of the prisoners when received into the gaol suffer from syphilis, psora, or gonorrhœa. These are entered in the Daily Occurrence Book. The more severe ones are described in the Surgeon's Journal above copied.

General Statistics.

No. 1.—The total expenses of Ilchester Goal, in the county of Somerset, for one year ending Michaelmas 1837, distinguishing the principal items, and a gross account of the expenses of the said gaol for the four previous years.

1836—37.	£.	s.	d.
Cost of prison diet	420	7	3
Male and female clothing	75	5	1¼
Bedding	14	8	0
Straw	4	16	0
Extra allowances, per order of surgeon	29	18	2
Beer and spirits, ditto	11	6	0
Fuel	106	8	4
Soap	19	0	11
Candles and oil	18	17	10
Washing (ashes)	2	17	8
Stationery and printing	12	12	10
Furniture (mops, brooms, &c.)	31	15	0
Officers' salaries, fees, and emoluments, including chaplain and surgeon	868	2	0
Removal of prisoners, to take their trials at assizes and sessions	67	8	10
Removing transported convicts	336	3	0
Sundries not mentioned	203	11	5½
	£2,222	18	4¾
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison	124	17	1
For the year ending Michaelmas 1837	2,347	15	5¾
Gross total expense of this gaol for the four previous years	9,806	8	9¼
Total of five years	£12,154	4	3

No. II.—Progress of the population:—

A Return showing the total number of admissions for the last five years, distinguishing males from females.

		Males.	Females.	
Debtors, Felons, &c.	In custody at the commencement of this return.	32	6	
		20	11	
Felons and misdemeanants received in five years		1,190	213	
Debtors received in five years		470	24	
		1,712	254	
Total				1,966

No. III.—Average of admissions, per annum . . . 393⅕.

No. IV.—Punishments:—

Return of the number of Punishments in the Gaol for the year ending Michaelmas 1837, distinguishing whether by irons or solitary confinement:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Irons	..	..	..
Solitary confinement	18	9	27

No. V.—Whippings in the year ending Michaelmas 1837:—

None.

No. VI.—Prisoners admitted into Ilchester Gaol from 1st January 1837 to 19th June 1837:—

	Males.	
Prisoners sentenced to transportation	71	Of whom had been previously convicted, 47.
Time prisoners	55	
Prisoners for trial	34	
	160	

No. VII.—State of the Gaol at Ilchester, on the 19th day of June 1837, at the date of my visit.

Debtors.		PRISONERS BEFORE TRIAL.											
		Felons for the Sessions.				Felons for the Assize.				Misdemeanors for the Sessions.			
		Under 17.		Above 17.		Under 17.		Above 17.		Under 17.		Above 17.	
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.
44	5	6	..	19	3	..	..	1	1	..	..	2	..

PRISONERS AFTER TRIAL.												Total of each Sex.		Grand Total.	Of whom been before Committed.	
Transports.				Fines and Imprisonment.				Insane.								
Under 17.		Above 17.		Under 17.		Above 17.		Under 17.		Above 17.						
Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.	Male.	Fem.		Male.	Fem.
..	..	1	8	..	..	15	5	..	..	..	..	88	22	110	4	6

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. It is very desirable that the schoolmaster should be engaged to come daily for a much longer time than one hour. Since hard labour is not practised here, the prisoners remain idle during a considerable part of the day; and on this account a particular facility exists here for imparting and receiving instruction.
2. There are several separate cells for women which are not in use, while at the same time they are sleeping three or four in the same room.
3. To enforce silence.
4. The women's bath is at present kept in the store-room, and is consequently out of the way when wanted for use; it would be more convenient to place it in the female infirmary.
5. To abandon the use of the small room on the poor debtors' sleeping-floor, as unwholesome.
6. To set apart a suitable room, in which the chaplain may converse with the prisoners.

SHEPTON-MALLET.—County House of Correction.

Construction.—The space which this prison occupies, and the accommodations which it affords, are scanty and deficient in relation to the number of prisoners who are sometimes confined here. At the time of my visit it was most inconveniently and, as far as regards the liabilities to disease, injuriously crowded. The following is the number of

	Males.	Females.
Yards . . . . . for	14	4
Day-rooms	14	4
Large sleeping-rooms (for more than one prisoner) . .	9	7
Single cells	45	..
Beds	300	31
Infirmary rooms	2	2
Baths for all the prisoners, only	1	..
The greatest number sleeping now in one room	11	8

There are besides two washing-rooms and an ironing-room for the use of the female prisoners. There is also a kitchen for the prison, in which a prisoner acts as cook.

The prison can contain 45 prisoners, sleeping in separate cells, and it is said to be capable of containing 255 when more than one prisoner sleeps in a cell. That number would be far too numerous for health and good discipline; but above 300 are sometimes here at the same time. On the whole, it is very desirable that some steps should be taken towards the enlargement of the building.

Management.—The complement of officers engaged here consists of the gaoler, the matron, one head turnkey, and 10 individuals who are denominated guards, and who, in fact, perform the functions of turnkeys. At the date of my visit two or three extra guards were engaged on account of the very crowded state of the establishment. The magistrates have not given any order to enjoin silence; but the gaoler preserves it in a slight degree. The prisoners associate in their respective yards and day-rooms. All the wards are patrolled at night by watchmen belonging to the establishment. The numbers admitted here are not on the decrease.

Suicides.—Twelve years ago a man committed suicide by hanging himself; and two years since another effected self-destruction by cutting his throat. These are the only attempts at suicide which the gaoler recollects to have happened during 30 years. During the above period a woman was guilty of child murder within the walls of the prison.

Escapes.—During 30 years no prisoner has made his escape. A year and a-half ago there was one attempt made, which proved unsuccessful.

Punishments.—The prisoners are locked up for three days in a solitary cell. Their allowance is restricted to bread and water daily. When prisoners are sentenced by the court to solitary confinement, they receive the ordinary allowance of food.

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Somersetshire.

Shepton-Mallet. County House of Correction.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain has held this office for 12 years; at present he has no other duties to attend to besides those of the prison. He performs Divine service twice on Sundays, and preaches a sermon at each service. He reads a selection from the Liturgy every morning to the prisoners, which occupies about 20 minutes. On week-days he visits the untried prisoners chiefly, when he takes the opportunity of lecturing and admonishing them upon the particular crimes for which they have entered the prison. The convicted prisoners he visits once a-week. On Sundays he visits the hard-labour prisoners in their wards, when he examines them in the Catechism, and gives them a lecture on certain points of the Catechism. There are a few prisoners here for heavy offences; such prisoners he takes into the chapel, where he converses with them in private. He has no room into which he can conduct the prisoners for the purpose of conference. There is no schoolmaster who receives a salary to instruct the prisoners; the boys are taught by a prisoner; there is no teaching in the other wards, except occasionally. There is not a very large supply of books for the use of the prisoners. The prisoners appear to be attentive to their pastor. The chaplain keeps a journal. His weekly visits are proportioned in number to the greater or less actual amount of prisoners. On Sundays the gaoler is generally present at chapel; the matron and all the turnkeys are also present, except on particular occasions; the same rule is also observed during the service performed on week-days.

Account Books and Registration.—The chaplain's journal; the visiting magistrates' book; the surgeon's journal; occurrence-book; the prisoners' property-book; the cash-book of the sums paid to the prisoners on their departure; cash-book of general accounts; the general register; the washing-book; the surgeon's extra-allowance book; turnkey's book.

Diet.—Dietary now established and in use at Shepton-Mallet Prison, under orders of the Court of Quarter Sessions:—

To prisoners above 14 years of age,—
One pound of seconds bread per day,
One pint and half of oatmeal gruel, } for breakfast.
One pound and half of potatoes, with sufficient salt, for dinner.
For supper, one pint of oatmeal gruel.
On Sundays,—
One pound of bread per day,
One pint and half of oatmeal gruel, } for breakfast.
For dinner, six ounces of meat, one pound of potatoes.
Prisoners under 14 years of age to be allowed,—
Three-quarters of a pound of bread per day,
One pint of oatmeal gruel, } for breakfast.
One pound of potatoes, with sufficient salt, for dinner.
For supper, three-quarters of a pint of oatmeal gruel.
On Sundays,—
Three quarters of a pound of bread,
One pint of oatmeal gruel, } for breakfast.
For dinner, four ounces of meat (after cooking, and without bone), three quarters of a pound of potatoes.

The following is an analysis of the quantity of food allotted weekly to each prisoner:—

	Bread.	Meat when cooked.	Potatoes.	Soup.
	ozs.	ozs.	lbs.	pints.
Men	112	6	10	$17\frac{1}{2}$
Women	112	6	10	$17\frac{1}{2}$
Boys	84	4	$7\frac{3}{4}$	$12\frac{1}{4}$

Punishments.—Number of Punishments for Offences committed within the Prison during the year ending Michaelmas 1836:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Irons	12	0	12
Confinement in Solitary Cells	107	8	115
	119	8	127

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon visits the prison daily, and sometimes twice or thrice in the day. The surgeon has been in office 16 years, and the average number of deaths during that time has been four in the year. The prison did not experience any attack of the malignant epidemic cholera. Many cases of influenza have occurred here, but no death ensued from it. Diarrhœa is very common here; and the disposition to diarrhœa is supposed to have existed here ever since the introduction of brown bread. In 1836 three prisoners were recommended for pardon on the ground of extreme illness, and it was accordingly granted. The surgeon examines all male prisoners to ascertain their fitness for tread-wheel labour. A severe case of typhus fever occurred here lately. At the time of my visit, 20th June 1837, I found 15 prisoners in the male infirmary, and 23 suffering under itch. There were two females in the female infirmary. During the last quarter of a year, from the 3d of April to the 20th of June, 76 cases of severe illness have occurred, being the largest amount of the sick recollected in one quarter. There is no insane prisoner in confinement.

LIST of SICK PRISONERS in SHEPTON MALLET GAOL, from 1st January 1836 to 1st January 1837, and from January 1837 to September in the same year.

No.	Disorder.	No.	Disorder.	No.	Disorder.
1	Cough.	1	Gonorrhœa.	1	Consumption.
2	Do.	2	Psora.	2	Ulcer of leg.
3	Abscess.	3	Abscess.	3	Insane.
4	Wounded finger.	4	Epilepsy.	4	Syphilis.
5	Sprained foot.	5	Hemoptysis.	5	Gonorrhœa.
6	Catarrh.	6	Gonorrhœa.	6	Itch.
7	Rheumatism.	7	Diarrhœa.	7	Diarrhœa.
8	Do.	8	Do.	8	Ulcer of leg.
9	Gonorrhœa.	9	Rheumatism.	9	Do.
10	Debility.	10	Diarrhœa.	10	Phthisis.
11	Hernia humeralis.	11	Debility.	11	Erysipelas.
12	Jaundice.	12	Pneumonia.	12	Syphilis.
13	Gonorrhœa.	13	Do.	13	Constipation.
14	Gravel.	14	Tinea Capitis.	14	Gonorrhœa.
15	Itch and Gonorrhœa.	15	Syphilis.	15	Podagra.
16	Psora.	16	Rheumatism.	16	Catarrh.
17	Catarrh.	17	Diarrhœa.	17	Do.
18	Do.	18	Stricture.	18	Erysipelas.
19	Cough.	19	Syphilis.		
20	Catarrh.				
21	Do.				
22	Do.				
23	Gonorrhœa.				
24	Wound of foot.				
25	Abscess.				
26	Diarrhœa.				
27	Gonorrhœa.				
28	Diarrhœa.				
29	Erysipelas.				
	First Quarter, March 1836.		*Second Quarter, June* 1836.		*Third Quarter, 17th October* 1836.
1	Emphysema.		*From January* 1837.	23	Influenza.
2	Diarrhœa.			24	Do.
3	Ulcers.	1	Debility.	25	Do.
4	Rheumatism.	2	Ulcer of leg.	26	Do.
5	Abscess.	3	Cough.	27	Abscess.
6	Syphilis.	4	Debility.	28	Diarrhœa.
7	Debility.	5	Ulcer of leg.	29	Ulcers.
8	Rupture.	6	Do.	30	Abscess.
9	Scrofula.	7	Erysipelas.	31	Influenza.
10	Syphilis.	8	Do.	32	Scald.
11	Gonorrhœa.	9	Debility.	33	Influenza.
12	Syphilis.	10	Catarrh.	34	Do.
13	Do.	11	Rheumatism.	35	Do.
14	Do.	12	Influenza.	36	Abscess.
15	Abscess.	13	Do.	37	Do.
16	Do.	14	Do.	38	Do.
17	Catarrh.	15	Do.	39	Erysipelas.
18	Debility.	16	Do.	40	Ulcer of leg.
19	Sores, Ulcers.	17	Do.	41	Abscess.
20	Diarrhœa.	18	Debility.	42	Rupture.
21	Abscess.	19	Influenza.		
22	Consumption.	20	Do.		
23	Syphilis.	21	Debility.		
24	Debility.	22	Influenza.		
	Fourth Quarter, to January 1837.				*First Quarter, 27th March* 1837.
1	Abscess.	15	Dentition.	29	Cough.
2	Debility.	16	Diarrhœa.	30	Ulcers of legs.
3	Cough.	17	Pneumonia.	31	Do.
4	Ulcers.	18	Psora.	32	Do.
5	Burns.	19	Do.	33	Rheumatism.
6	Ulcers.	20	Do.	34	Diarrhœa.
7	Burns.	21	Ulcers of legs.	35	Burns.
8	Ulcers.	22	Debility.	36	Diarrhœa.
9	Constipation.	23	Catarrh.	37	Do.
10	Ulcers.	24	Epilepsy.	38	Debility.
11	Gravel.	25	Catarrh.	39	Diarrhœa.
12	Chilblains.	26	Do.	40	Cough.
13	Constipation.	27	Do.	41	Pleurisy.
14	Ulcers.	28	Cough.	42	Gonorrhœa.

III.
SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.
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List of Sick Prisoners—*continued.*

No.	Disorder.	No.	Disorder.	No.	Disorder.
43	Catarrh.	56	Debility.	69	Diarrhœa.
44	Injury of ribs & shoulder	57	Erysipelas.	70	Cholera.
45	Gonorrhœa.	58	Syphilis.	71	Syphilis.
46	Pneumonia.	59	Hernia humeralis.	72	Abscess.
47	Diarrhœa.	60	Gonorrhœa.	73	Ulcers of Thigh.
48	Shingles.	61	Diarrhœa.	73	Psora.
49	Fistula.	62	Debility.	75	Do.
50	Pregnancy.	63	Itch.	76	Scrofula.
51	Catarrh.	64	Catarrh.		
52	Itch.	65	Psora.		
53	Do.	66	Midwifery.		
54	Menorrhagia.	67	Diarrhœa.		*Second Quarter,*
55	Diarrhœa.	68	Acute rheumatism.		*26th June* 1837.
1	Diarrhœa.	10	Fits.	19	Debility.
2	Do.	11	Suppression of urine.	20	Hemorrhoids.
3	Ague.	12	Scrofula.	21	Debility.
4	Cholera.	13	Diarrhœa.	22	Do.
5	Diarrhœa.	14	Menorrhagia.	23	Syphilis.
6	Do.	15	Tympanitis.	24	Diarrhœa.
7	Do.	16	Diarrhœa.	25	Do.
8	Asthma.	17	Do.	26	Catarrh.
9	Diarrhœa.	18	Asthma.		*To 11th September* 1837.

Labour.—The hard labour is afforded by the tread-wheels and by breaking stones. The male prisoners are also occupied in carpentry, shoemaking, tailoring, and cleansing. The women are employed in washing and the like.

Months Employed.	Number of Working Hours per day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.
January	5½	48
February	6½	..
March	7½	..
April	7½	..
May	7½	..
June	7½	..
July	7½	..
August	7½	..
September	7½	..
October	6½	..
November	5½	..
December	5½	..

Profits of Prison Labour.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Miller's account of earnings from July to October 1835	6	2	10
„ October 1835 to January 1836	5	17	5
„ January to April 1836	7	1	4
„ April to July 1836	7	3	9
Washing account from October 1835 to January 1836	40	5	7
„ January to April 1836	36	2	6½
„ April to July 1836	23	12	1
„ July to October 1836	32	15	8½
Baking account from July 1835 to October 1835	21	0	8
„ October to January 1836	19	18	10
„ January to April 1836	20	15	1½
„ April to July 1836	18	17	10½
Tailors' earnings	20	0	0
Shoemakers' account	12	0	0
Whitewashing account, &c., &c.	15	0	0
	£286	13	9

N.B. The miller's account is the only clear receipt *in money;* the rest is only *so much money saved* saved to the county, calculated according to market prices.

General Statistics.

No. I.—Statement of all the Prisoners now confined here on 20th June 1837, the date of my visit:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Assizes—Charged with murder	1	0	1
Wells Sessions—Charged with felony	74	13	87
„ Charged with misdemeanours	13	0	13
Bath Sessions—Charged with felony	22	11	33
Convicted vagrants	17	1	18
Convicted felons	71	6	77
Convicted misdemeanours from Assize and Sessions	6	0	6
Disobeying orders in bastardy	2	0	2
Trespass, stealing fruit and vegetables	16	3	19
Leaving service	2	0	2
Assaults and sureties of the peace for time	21	4	25
Destroying game	4	0	4
Deserter	1	0	1
Convicted felons from Bath Sessions	23	3	26
	273	41	314
Children			3
			317
Prisoners for trial	110	24	134

No. II.—Number of Prisoners confined here during the year:—

	Male.	Female.
In custody at the commencement of the year	170	24
Received under commitments, and who have not been in the custody of others	1,038	183
Received from the custody of other keepers, and enumerated in their returns	52	2
Committed for re-examination	51	2
	1,311	211

No. III.—SALARIES.

			£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Keeper	59	1807	220	0	0	43	0	0
Surgeon	47	1821	60	0	0	5	5	0
Chaplain	44	1825	125	0	0	..		
Matron	50	1830	25	0	0	..		
Turnkey	49	1834	60	0	0	12	0	0
Miller	25	1836	52	0	0	..		
Porter and gatekeeper	55	..	36	8	0	..		
Two night guards	..	..	72	16	0	..		
Seven day guards, by order of the visiting justices	..	..	254	16	0	..		

No. IV.—Average number of Prisoners:*—

The greatest number at one time has been a little above or below 300 for some years past. The female prisoners usually average between 15 and 30.

No. V.—Receipts during the year:—

	£.	s.	d.
Profits arising from productive labour done in the prison		..	
Amount received for subsistence of military prisoners		..	
Amount received for support of prisoners under contract		..	
Amount of fines paid by prisoners applicable to the county rate		..	
Amount received for the support of vagrants		..	
Amount received from parishes for the support of illegitimate children		..	
Amount received from Exchequer for the subsistence of transports		..	
Amount received for the subsistence of revenue prisoners		..	
Other receipts	21	1	5
Total	£21	1	5

* The average number during the preceding quarter has been communicated to me, perhaps erroneously, as only 98.

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No. VI.—Total Expenses of Prison for the year:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total expenses of prison for the year	3,030	12	6
Total receipts of ditto	21	1	5
Actual cost to the county, city, or borough, not including alterations and additions	£3,009	11	1

The cost of each prisoner per day, is 11*d.*

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To appoint an assistant matron.
2. To try white bread for the diet of the prisoners instead of the second quality of bread, which may, perhaps, be the cause of diarrhœa among the prisoners.
3. To remove the blinds, as a temporary means of better ventilation. during the present crowded state of the prison.
4. To enforce silence.
5. A water-closet to be made for the female infirmary.
6. Sheets to be used for the sick prisoners in the infirmary wards.
7. The ticking of the mattresses requires to be more frequently cleaned.
8. When the prison is much crowded, the day-rooms should be used for sleeping-rooms.
9. More bedding and more bedsteads are required for the use of the prisoners.
10. A small room should be set apart for the use of the chaplain, in which he might take the prisoners to converse with them in private; and also another small room should be allotted for the use of the surgeon.
11. It would be advantageous probably to mix occasionally a few onions with the potatoes prepared for the prison diet.
12. As the sick are here sometimes very numerous, it would be very serviceable to devote one turnkey exclusively to the office of attendant on the male infirmary, and of nurse to the sick men; the same individual might also act as surgery-man to the surgeon, and might be subservient also to the chaplain during his interviews with the prisoners.

WELLS.—City and County Lock-up House.

Wells. City and County Lock-up House.

Construction.—This house stands apart in a yard belonging to the town-hall; it contains seven rooms, some small, others of a moderate size. There is only one privy. The contracted space of this lock-up house becomes a matter of serious importance, because it is not only used for offenders from the city itself, admitted on night charges, but is also obliged to contain the county prisoners, who are brought hither from the county prisons at the time of the assizes. The assizes are held here and at Bridgewater alternately, as well as regularly at Taunton. These county prisoners remain here sometimes so long as six or seven days. Their number is very large, amounting even occasionally to 100 or more; and in the day-room they cannot find room to sit down all at once. It is easy to foresee the unwholesomeness, the contamination, and the painful restraint to which this close compression of so many beings within a narrow compass must give rise. (See, for further particulars, the document No. XI. of the General Statistics of Wilton Prison.)

Management.—The hall-keeper has the care of the lock-up house, so far as relates to offenders sent thither on night charges. He provides three meals daily for them, and makes a bill of the amount. He receives 10*l.* a-year from the city, and has no allowance from the county. With the superintendence, indeed, of the county prisoners he has no connexion whatever; they are brought hither by their respective keepers, and are attended by their own guards during the time of the assizes. A female is engaged at that time expressly for the purpose of ministering to the wants of the county prisoners of her own sex. No county prisoners are permitted to leave the rooms, except for the purpose of going to the necessary, and of washing themselves, when they are accompanied by their guards. They sleep upon the floor, with no bedding except straw, which is supplied by the city during the summer; in winter they have a coverlit.

Diet.—The county prisoners have 6*d.* a-day for their support allowed them by the county. This sum is laid out by the wife of the keeper, according as the prisoners desire it.

Religious and other Instruction.—No chaplain attends here.

Suicide.—During the 14 years that the keeper has resided here there has been no instance of suicide.

Escapes.—There has been no escape in the above-named period.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The parish surgeon is sent for when a case of illness occurs. Four or five prisoners were ill at the last April sessions. The sick are placed in a separate room. One man died here about two years ago. This is the only death which has occurred here during 14 years.

General Statistics.

At the time of my visit I found no one in confinement here.

Last Christmas so many as 200 prisoners are stated to have been brought hither; but some were taken back to Shepton Mallet.

At Michaelmas last there were about 100.

At the sessions which were about to ensue soon after my visit in the summer of 1837 about 100 prisoners were also expected.

At the last April sessions there were 102 county prisoners, of whom eight were women.

(See, for more complete details, the document No. XI. of the General Statistics of Wilton Prison.)

Suggestions towards Improvement.

At an interview with the mayor and town-clerk, I submitted to those gentlemen the propriety of considering some means of providing better and more extensive accommodation for the large mass of county prisoners who are brought hither at the assizes and sessions. In particular I pointed out the expediency of procuring light iron bedsteads, and of placing them in tiers against the walls, so as to obviate the evil of a multitude sleeping confusedly and closely on the floor. The expediency of furnishing suitable bedding and of making a privy for the use of the female county prisoners was also noticed. These gentlemen fully admitted the extent of the inconvenience sustained; but a question arose as to whether the county ought not to bear the expense of any improvements thus incurred, instead of the burthen being thrown on the city. It is true that the city profits considerably by the occasion which brings the prisoners together; but on the whole it would probably be just that the county and the city should defray an equal proportion of the expenditure which would be requisite in order to place things on a decent footing. It is highly desirable, for the benefit of all parties concerned, that the building should be enlarged, and that a separate bedstead and bedding should be supplied for at least the ordinary average of prisoners. If any extensive alteration should be agreed upon (which is earnestly to be hoped), it would be very advantageous to set apart two small rooms for the sick of either sex, to secure the daily visits of a clergyman and a surgeon during the sessions and assizes, and to maintain a supply of religious books.

WILTON.—County House of Correction.

Wilton. County House of Correction.

Construction.—This prison is contracted in its space, in proportion to the number of prisoners confined; but the evil has been as well remedied as the circumstances will permit.

Number of single separate cells, 10.

Number of rooms in which several sleep, 26.

11 is the greatest number of prisoners sleeping now in one room, 12 is the largest number of bedsteads in any one room.

Number of single cells for females, 0.

„ „ men, 10.

„ large rooms for women, 3.

„ „ men, 23.

The number of prisoners whom the prison is capable of containing, when more than one sleeps in a cell, is 175. There are 14 wards or divisions with a day-room attached to each, and there are also 14 yards, which are generally very small.

The gaoler has a plan for making 149 single cells within the same space, and within the same walls as at present, including half the number of small yards. These yards would be used alternately by the prisoners on the upper floor. These are his proposed dimensions:—

Cells.—7 ft. 6 in. by 5 ft. for boys.

„ 7 ft. 6 in. by 7 ft. for others.

Yards.—7 ft. wide by 20 ft. long is the average.

Management.—Silence was adopted two years ago. The punishment for its first violation is admonition; second, stoppage of the gruel; third, a diet of one lb. of bread only, for one day; after that, solitary confinement.

The condition of this prison is very good, and the greatest attention to regularity and neatness is shown in every part of it. The keeper has devoted himself to the improvement of the prison with zeal and success; he has collected much important information.

Irons are occasionally used for very refractory conduct. The keeper has engaged to transport prisoners for the whole county. The borough of Bridgwater pays 11*d.* daily* for the prisoners whom it sends hither. Boys are not taught any trades here; such a system would be very advantageous.

There are no debtors; all debtors go to the gaol at Ilchester.

Solitary confinement is usually ordered for one week out of a month. If a prisoner is sentenced for 12 months, then he is placed in solitary confinement during one week in each month. Such prisoners now sleep at night in the same cell in which they remain during the day-time. They are allowed to take exercise in the yard attached to the cells for half an hour in the morning, and half an hour in the evening. The diet in solitary confinement is always one lb. of bread daily, with only water in summer, but with a little gruel night and morning in winter. At present two men and one boy are thus confined. The gaoler has never observed any prisoner to suffer in health from this plan; he has known a prisoner to remain a fortnight on this plan for an offence committed within the walls. The diet for solitary confinement was fixed at the quarter sessions; it does not exist in print nor in manuscript. Such prisoners are visited four or five times daily, and always once daily by the gaoler. Articles are often thrown over the walls,—usually tobacco.

Diet.—A small square piece of salt is given daily to each prisoner, besides some which is put into his gruel. The gaoler distributes as much soap as is requisite.

* Next year it will be a shilling daily, on account of the increased price of provisions.

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The prisoners receive every day except Sunday,—

Breakfast, one lb. of best bread, one and a half pint of oatmeal gruel from one ounce of meal.

Dinner, one and a half lb. of potatoes when boiled.

Supper, one pint of gruel from one ounce of meal.

Sunday, breakfast same as other days.

Dinner, one lb. of potatoes, six ounces of meat, including bone, when boiled; breasts of mutton are generally made use of.

Supper, same as other days.

One-fourth less of bread, potatoes, and gruel, and one-third less of meat, for all under 14 years of age.

The untried may receive food from their friends without, provided that they maintain themselves entirely in food, bedding, and clothing; under such circumstances they may receive their meals three times daily, and may daily have a pint of ale or porter admitted.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—The surgeon has held his office here about 25 years. He believes that the diet is sufficiently liberal for the purposes of health. He has had to contend with more cases of affections of the lungs than any other, except the dysentery, which was an epidemic, and quite new to this part of the country.

During the last seven years there have been 411 cases of disease in the Wilton House of Correction; 146 as described below, and 265 slighter cases, of various descriptions, such as lues venerea, gonorrhœa, hœmorrhoids, abscesses, and common catarrh.

Pulmonary affections	31	Brought forward	92
Anasarca	5	Lumber abscess	2
Affections of the liver	9	Jaundice	3
Epileptic fits	2	Hooping cough	1
Pleurisy	6	Typhus fever	1
Acute rheumatism	2	Gout	1
Erysipelas	4	Strangulated hernia	1
Quinsy	1	Influenza	7
Asthma	5	Apoplexy	2
Simple fever	25	Hœmorrhage	3
Ague	2	Epidemic dysentery	33
Carried forward	92		146

There have been 13 deaths during the seven years, namely:—

Pulmonary consumption	8
Extreme debility	1
Apoplexy	2
Dysentery	2
	13

Seven women have been delivered during the seven years of six male children and of one female; the mothers and children all did well.

The diet for the sick is daily:—

One lb. of best bread.

Two ounces of butter (fresh).

One pint and a half of tea, with milk and sugar.

One pint and a half of broth from mutton, with a portion of the meat cut up in it; or oatmeal gruel with vegetables.

Not a bottle of wine has been used here for the sick in 20 years, but porter and table-beer are ordered occasionally.

TABLE of DEATHS and of CASES admitted into the INFIRMARY from Michaelmas 1828 to 31st May 1837.

			Deaths.	Admitted into Infirmary.	Total Prisoners admitted during the year.
From Michaelmas	1828 to Michaelmas	1829	4 out	of 47	649
,,	1829 ,,	1830	4	55	421
,,	1830 ,,	1831	1	45	558
,,	1831 ,,	1832	none.	27	580
,,	1832 ,,	1833	do.	46	587
,,	1833 ,,	1834	1	64	543
,,	1834 ,,	1835	1	78	484
,,	1835 ,,	1836	7	64	504
And from Mich.	1836 to 31st May	1837	2	23	420

Labour.—There are two tread-wheels in four separated houses. Each one can be used alone, or all may be employed at once. The four separated houses are intended for different classes of prisoners. There are no divisions (or compartments) in the wheels. The application of the tread-mill is to grinding corn for the use of the prison. Those who cannot work at the tread-wheels are set to break stones. There are also two work-rooms, in which various trades are carried on; one room is for shoemaking and tailoring, and one is for carpenters' and painters' work. The internal whitewashing and painting are entirely performed by the

prisoners. The wardsmen are obliged to clean the wards. The cookery is carried on by two convicted male prisoners. Pumping water is another labour for the prisoners.

The profit of the tread-wheel labour is estimated at 50*l.*; that is, so much money is saved to the county.

Forty steps a minute is the ordinary velocity of the wheel; the height of each step eight inches; the number of feet in ascent, per day, is 12,000; the revolutions of wheel, per day, 750; amount of labour performed daily by each prisoner, 9,000 feet.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain performs Divine service twice on Sundays, morning and evening, and preaches two sermons: he also reads the Divine service and preaches a sermon on Christmas-day and Good Friday. He reads prayers selected from the Liturgy every morning at nine o'clock. All the prisoners attend, except occasionally a few wardsmen, who may be prevented by waiting upon the sick or engaged on other necessary business. The gaoler is not generally present during Divine service on Sundays, but attends sometimes. The matron and three of the turnkeys are always present both on Sundays and also on week days. The chaplain is allowed to order in whatever books he deems necessary, which are all supplied from the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge. There are plenty of books in the chapel, which is used as a school-room, and to which the prisoners adjourn every day at five o'clock during summer, and remain in school till the hours of locking up; this plan commenced in June 1837. In the winter the school is only held in the morning from 9 till 10 o'clock. The chaplain always remains in the winter, after prayers, till 10 o'clock. He examines every prisoner who arrives. He usually finds all the prisoners very deficient in religious knowledge; a few can repeat the Creed and the Lord's Prayer by rote, but few have any distinct idea of a Saviour. He occasionally visits the parents of the boys. He has never given any regular notice for administering the Sacrament, but has acted according to his views of the fitness of the prisoners to receive it. He has never been asked by a prisoner to deliver it to him, but has more than once given it to prisoners. The last time he administered the Sacrament no prisoner attended. He attends upon the sick, but has never been requested to visit by a prisoner. He does not visit at other times, unless the prisoner's offence is likely to affect his life; or if a prisoner comes for a few days previous to his trial from the prison at Ilchester, or from that at Shepton Mallet. The chaplain has filled this office since 1829, when he was appointed to it. He presides over a parish, of which he has the care, about two miles from here. He keeps a journal, and also a private book, in which he enters short notices relating to the prisoners. He always observes that the prisoners are very attentive during Divine service. He hears the prisoners read, and forms them into classes for the school. It would be very beneficial if the chaplain were to visit the prisoners occasionally, and to converse with them separately. There are no executions here; they take place at the prison at Ilchester.

A chest of books is kept in the vestry, procured through a legacy of 5*l.* left by Mr. Morind for that purpose about four years ago.

Slates are not provided, because the magistrates had an objection to instruction in writing.

There is no schoolmaster, but certain individuals are selected from among the prisoners, who act as schoolmasters, under the superintendance of the chaplain and of the other officers.

General Statistics.

No. I.—RETURN of PRISONERS received into Custody from the 1st of January to the 31st of December 1836.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Old Offenders.
For trial at the assizes	75	13	88	24
For trial at sessions	102	25	127	38
For trial at Bridgwater Borough Sessions	4	3	7	1
Re-examination	14	5	19	2
Deserters	10	0	10	..
Assault	31	5	36	8
Convicted felons	39	3	42	6
Convicted Misdemeanors	45	9	54	6
Convicted, refusing to obey orders in bastardy	5	1	6	2
Rogues and vagabonds	70	12	82	22
Disorderly apprentices and servants	30	4	34	4
Convicted of offending against the Game Laws	25	0	25	4
Convicted of stealing fruit and vegetables	22	6	28	7
Total	472	86	558	124

No. II.—Number of persons committed from May 31, 1836, to May 31, 1837, for disorderly conduct in workhouses, 26.

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No. III.—Return of the Prisoners confined in the Wilton House of Correction, Taunton, Somerset, at the date of my visit, 16th June 1837:—

				Old Offenders.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Convicted felons	35	2	37	9	1	10
,, misdemeanors	5	1	6	..	..	..
,, vagrants	10	..	10	7	..	7
,, disorderly apprentices	4	..	4	2	..	2
,, of offending against the game laws	2	..	2	1	..	1
,, of stealing fruit or vegetables	..	1	1	..	..	..
,, of assaults	5	..	5	3	..	3
For trial at the assizes	2	1	3	1	..	1
,, sessions	31	..	31	14	..	14
,, Bridgwater borough sessions	4	2	6	1	..	1
Total	98	7	105	38	1	39

No. IV.—Punishments inflicted during the year 1836 for offences committed within the prison:—

Reduction of food for talking and a first offence against the rules and orders of the gaol 60

Solitary confinement for from one to three days for repeatedly talking at the wheels, and in the day or sleeping-rooms; for having tobacco in possession, exchanging food, refusing to work at tread-wheel labour, and inattention during the hours of Divine service and instruction 40

Four prisoners have been placed in irons for attempting to escape, and refractory conduct.

No. V.—Removal of prisoners:—

The keeper of this gaol has superintended the removal of prisoners from all the gaols in the county, to and from the different assize and sessions towns, for the last three or four years, in consequence of the alteration in the mode of conveyance from post to draft horses.

The prisoners are conveyed in close vans, drawn by three or four horses; the cost for removing 40 prisoners from Wilton to Wells now would be about £8, formerly it would have been £18, and so in proportion for the distances from the other gaols. Three guards are allowed to each van—one inside, the other two walking on each side; 6*s.* per day is allowed to each guard. They are engaged during the assize or session week night and day, in consequence of the number of prisoners confined in each room, and their requiring constant attention.

No. VI.—Proportion of educated and uneducated:—

RETURN of the Number of PRISONERS received in each year since 1831, distinguishing those that could read, write, &c.

Years.	Number Received.	Could Read.	Could Write.	Had been taught at Charity or Sunday Schools.
1831	558	374	212	190
1832	580	400	243	223
1833	587	400	257	221
1834	543	366	221	194
1835	484	327	197	221

State of Instruction of Prisoners received in 1836 and 1837:—

	1836.		1837.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Could neither read nor write	124	30	151	35
Could read only	75	29	146	28
Could read and write, or both imperfectly	88	7	118	6
Could read and write well	70	2	47	1
Educated at charity schools	175	27	208	25

No. VII.—Return of the Number of Punishments inflicted during the last Two Years, for Offences committed within the Prison:—

	1836.	1837.
Irons	3	1
Dark cells	53	62
Stoppage of diet	12	52
Solitary confinement	..	11
Total	68	126

Since the introduction of the silent system the punishments have increased. Since the classification of prisoners working at the tread-wheels, disorderly conduct has ceased, as well as conversation; no punishment has been inflicted subsequently for any offence committed during the hours of labour.

No. VIII.—Recommittals.

Return of the number of prisoners confined in the course ef the year who have been before committed to this or any other prison.

	1836.		1837.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Once	62	3	90	7
Twice	21	2	22	1
Thrice	5	1	5	4
Four times or more	12	1	13	1
Total	100	7	130	13

No. IX.—Analysis of the amount of the Dietary per week for each individual.

—	Bread.	Meat when Cooked.	Potatoes.	Oatmeal Gruel.*
	ozs.	ozs.	lbs.	Pints.
Men Women	112	6	10	14
Boys and girls under 14	84	4	7	14

No. X.—Expenditure:—

Return of the total cost per annum.

	1836. £.	s.	d.	1837. £.	s.	d.
Diet	447	14	0½	619	16	3
Clothing	90	16	1½	119	12	9
Bedding	37	18	2	21	1	11
Straw				12	13	9
Extra allowance, by surgeon	23	12	1½	20	1	8
Beer and spirits, ditto	0	13	11½	2	16	0
Fuel	73	17	0	96	5	11
Soap	14	0	0	22	16	0
Candles and oil	10	16	0	12	19	10½
Washing	3	16	9	6	0	0
Stationery and printing	11	18	2	13	18	0
Books	3	14	1½	6	10	10
Furniture	18	19	0	72	1	6
Officers' salaries	682	19	6	671	19	6
Removal of prisoners to take their trials	34	1	6	52	16	0
Extra guards attending assizes and sessions	84	9	0	56	16	0
Removing convicts				18	0	0
Sundries	127	12	0	101	17	8
Total £	1,666	17	5½	1,928	3	7½

The great number of prisoners received in 1837 accounts for the increased expenditure of the year.

No. XI.—Construction.

Under this head I shall insert a return, stating the number and dimensions of the rooms, at the prisons of Bridgwater and Wells, to which the prisoners are removed for trial; also stating the number removed at each assizes and sessions for the last seven years. This is a document intimately connected with the well-being of the Wilton prison, since the prisoners are removed thence to the above-named prisons for some days during the assizes and sessions.

Bridgwater.

Number.

1. Men's day-room, 42 ft. by 16 ft. This is the only room for men and boys of every age and description during the assizes or sessions week.
2. A back kitchen, where all the women are kept by day.
3. Women's sleeping-room, 22 ft. square.
4. Men's sleeping-room, 18 ft. square.
5. „ „ 18 ft. by 16.
6. „ „ 18 ft. by 16.

* One ounce of oatmeal to one pint of gruel.

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Wells.

1. Men's day-room, 20 ft. by 15.
2. „ „ 20 ft. by 15.
3. Men's sleeping room, 20 ft. by 15.
4. „ „ 20 ft. by 15.
5. Women's sleeping room, 10 ft. by 9.
6. Cell, 10 ft. by 8½, for King's evidence, &c.
7. Cell, 15 ft. by 4½.

The females by day are placed in one of the men's sleeping-rooms.

NUMBER OF PRISONERS REMOVED FOR TRIAL TO WELLS.

Year.	Epiphany Sessions.	Easter, or Spring Sessions.	Adjourned Midsummer Sessions.	Lammas Assizes.	Adjourned Michaelmas Sessions.
1831	158	49	..	..	..
1832	149	59	..	86	..
1833	185	85	..	..	..
1834	128	74	..	71	..
1835	155	150	..	..	74
1836	147	134	106	107	89
1837	198	109	119	..	78

NUMBER OF PRISONERS REMOVED FOR TRIAL TO BRIDGWATER.

Year.	Midsummer Sessions.	Lammas Assizes.
1831	99	79
1832	102	..
1833	78	67
1834	101	..
1835	122	69
1836	62	..
1837	86	48

No. XII.—Return of the number of Committals, for disorderly conduct in *Union Workhouses*, from the 1st October 1836 to the end of the year 1837 :—

Chard	4	Wellington	23
Yeovil	3	Taunton	5

No. XIII.—Salaries at the Wilton Prison at Taunton :—

	£.	s.	d.	
Keeper	200	0	0	(Receives coals and candles.)
Chaplain	125	0	0	
Surgeon	50	0	0	(Including medicines.)
Matron	20	0	0	
First turnkey . .	50	0	0	(Coals and candles, and 5*l.* extra as chaplain's
Second ditto . .	41	14	0	clerk.)
Third ditto . . .	36	8	0	
Fourth ditto . .	36	8	0	
Miller	41	12	0	

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. To make some holes in the door of the dark cell opening out of the chapel, or otherwise to promote its ventilation.
2. To appoint a regular schoolmaster, with a salary.
3. To place the iron bedsteads in double tiers along the walls of the large cells, so that the prisoners may not sleep so near together, as is the case at present. Of course this suggestion is only applicable to the actual state of the prison. If new cells are built, it will be very expedient that every prisoner should occupy a separate cell, at all events by night.
4. To make small compartments on the tread-wheel, in order to separate the prisoners, so far as to prevent them from communicating by looks while on the wheel.
5. To include in the chaplain's range of duty the important task of visiting the prisoners frequently, and of conversing with them separately. It would be very convenient to take them for that purpose into the small vestry-room adjoining the chapel.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Expenses incurred by the County on criminal matters during the year 1835.

	£.	s.	d.
Clerk of the peace	691	5	11
High constables	104	5	9
Special constables	339	11	5
Coroners	678	17	9
Gaol and House of Correction	4,544	0	4
Judges' house	260	11	4
Prisoners conveyed to gaol	918	11	9
Payment to poor prisoners in the King's Bench and Fleet prisons	25	0	0
Passing of prisoners discharged from gaol	71	5	1½
Prosecutions	4,502	4	1
Shire Hall	318	1	9

In the above (under head of gaol) is included

	£.	s.	d.
Gaoler of Walsall, one year's salary, due 1st October	12	10	0
Gaoler of Newcastle, ditto, due Midsummer	5	0	0

	£.	s.	d.
Maintenance of prisoners in Newcastle Gaol	9	18	8
,, ,, ditto	5	9	8
,, ,, Walsall Gaol	9	16	8
	25	5	0

Sums paid to the County Treasurer by the Governor of the County Gaol at Stafford:—

		£.	s.	d.
Governor of the gaol, for	flour and bran sold to the public	232	6	4½
,, ,,	prisoners grinding wheat for the public	11	15	9
,, ,,	prisoners heading pins for manufacturers	97	2	11
,, ,,	manufactured goods sold, cleaning carpets, &c.	5	7	6
,, ,,	maintenance of illegitimate children in prison	2	0	0
,, ,,	window glass and cups broken by prisoners	1	16	1½

STAFFORD.—County Gaol and House of Correction.

Dietary.—Analysis of the Weekly Diet of each Prisoner.

Stafford. County Gaol and House of Correction.

		Bread.	Potatoes.	Gruel.	Other Allowances.
		ozs.	lbs.	Pints.	
Sunday	Men, Women, Boys	28	1	3	A sufficient quantity of salt in the gruel and with the potatoes.
Monday	Men, Women, Boys	28	1	3	
Tuesday	Men, Women, Boys	28	1	3	
Wednesday	Men, Women, Boys	28	1	3	
Thursday	Men, Women, Boys	28	1	3	
Friday	Men, Women, Boys	28	1	3	
Saturday	Men, Women, Boys	28	1	3	

Half an hour is allowed for breakfast, one hour at dinner, and half an hour at supper; at which times the convicts are confined in separate cells.

Construction.—This prison contains 22 classes, 19 day-rooms, 14 work-rooms and shops, and 22 airing-yards. It is said to be capable of holding 325 prisoners in separate cells, and to be capable of holding 546 when more than one sleeps in a cell.

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NUMBER OF CELLS, &c.

Solitary Cells.	Dark Cells.	Male Debtors' Cells, &c.	Female Debtors' Cells.	Male Prisoners' Cells.	Female Prisoners' Cells.	Single Male Cells.	Double Male Cells.
16	3	36 single 2 double. 6 beds in one room.	3 beds in one room.	IN GAOL. 34 single 26 treble 8 beds for boys in one room.	27 7 hospital	282 4 lodges 286	65
				IN HOUSE OF CORRECTION. 174 single 37 treble 17 hospital 7 vagrants			

Management.—The governor, taskmaster, head turnkey, matron, and female turnkey reside wholly within the walls. As regards the other officers, the four turnkeys (having families) take their meals at their own houses, but sleep in the prison; the assistant officer and porter sleep within the walls on the alternate nights; and the whole take their turns as night watchmen or guards.

Silence was enjoined about two years ago. Tobacco and snuff are forbidden. This prison is conducted with care and judgment; and neatness and good order reign almost throughout. A considerable number of separate cells have been built near the tread-wheel yards; in these the prisoners sentenced to hard labour are confined. These last have no exercise except on Sundays, when they have the free use of the yard, keeping three feet asunder from each other, and always in the presence of an officer. On week-days they work at the tread-wheel.

The untried associate together (in the day time) in the different classes to which they belong, but they are not (as far as it is practicable) allowed to communicate with each other; they must not talk so as to be heard. They are kept separate at night.

The convicted felons generally are kept in separate cells, and when at work on the tread-wheels they are not permitted to speak.

The existing rules of the prison (made in 1824) allow a portion of the convicts to take their meals together in the presence of a turnkey; the rest are confined separately during meal time. The prisoners summarily convicted take their meals together in rooms appropriated for this purpose in their different classes.

No communication is allowed with friends outside, either by visits or by letter, unless the prisoner has been in custody six months, and not then if he has misconducted himself.

A night patrol is alternately performed by the four turnkeys, miller and baker, assistant turnkey, and porter; each sits up one night in the seven. There is no patrol on the female side.

Labour.—There are tread-wheels for grinding corn for the prison use, and for the public, and for supplying the prison with water and cleansing the prison drains. Besides this hard labour, several other occupations are carried on, such as heading pins for pin manufacturers, making clog shoes, making, repairing, and washing prisoners' clothing; fulling mill for cleaning blankets, rugs, carpets; breaking stones for repairing prison yards, making bread for the prisoners; carpenter's, bricklayer's, mason's, painter's, and locksmith's work; knitting stockings, &c.

The work is productive. The prisoners are paid on their discharge from prison a portion of the profit, not exceeding one-sixth; the county is benefitted by the remainder.

Very few untried prisoners are employed, as it is considered dangerous to place various tools in their possession. Some are employed in tailor's work, painting, mason's and bricklayer's work, in keeping the prison clean, and in whitewashing it.

Labour is here decidedly regarded as a punishment, and is not sought after.. The boys are usually employed in pin-heading. Ten hours daily is the period allotted to labour in the summer months; during the rest of the year it varies according to the length of the days.

View of the mode in which prisoners have been employed in the year ending Michaelmas 1836:—

	Male.	Female.
Hard labour	1,210	133
Employment not being hard labour	105	42
„ in Sheriff's Gaol	60	6
Not employed	142	47
Total	1,517	228
Deserters	16	..
Debtors	106	..
Total number committed within the year 1835-6	1,867	

Donations to discharged prisoners are made from the county fund; 2*s.* or 3*s.* is the lowest sum, and 5*s.* usually the highest given. The time and labour are usually the regulators of the amount. The sums paid in 1835 amounted to £53. 14*s.* 9*d.*

Escapes.—During 17 years of the keeper's residence here he has lost no debtor. Four escapes have happened within that period, three of men and one of a woman, but they were all retaken.

Suicide.—During 17 years one man has hung himself; he was charged with murder, and hanged himself in his cell the day before his trial.

Religious and other Instruction.—The chaplain was absent at the time of my visit. He attends at the prison daily. He performs Divine service in the chapel twice on Sunday with a sermon; he also performs Divine service on Wednesday morning and Friday afternoon. He visits the sick, and gives instruction to the juvenile classes, as well as other prisoners. He also visits those who are confined in solitude, and affords them moral and religious instruction. He keeps a separate journal of the duties he performs, but not a character book. The prisoner's character is noticed, however, more or less, in the different registers. Classes are formed for prisoners under the age of 17, and instruction is given to such adults as require it. Such instruction, however, must be necessarily scanty, without the aid of a regular schoolmaster.

The chaplain is attached in a similar capacity to the adjoining county lunatic asylum.

Care of the Sick, Disease, and Mortality.—I am indebted to the surgeon of this prison for very instructive and copious details as to its state of health. The surgeon was appointed to his office four years ago, and had previously assisted his father, the former surgeon, at various times during the six anterior years. He has the unlimited power of ordering extra food and extra exercise whenever he thinks it proper. An honorary physician is attached at present to the establishment, but he receives no salary. The surgeon examines all prisoners on their admission; he usually visits those prisoners who are sentenced to solitary confinement a day or two after they have been placed in their cells, and sometimes repeats his visit once during the week or fortnight in which they remain so confined. Two female prisoners have lain in here since January 1837, and two more are likely soon to be in the same situation, but no such case has terminated fatally, nor has any child died here during the four years in which he has held his office. No death occurred from the influenza which prevailed in the late spring. The surgeon has witnessed no case of scurvy during his four years of office. He has frequently had occasion to prescribe, for prisoners who have remained here long, the use of aromatics and of meat, because they often suffer from waterbrash and flatulence. He has known no other evil consequence to arise from a low diet except night-blindness, of which he has seen four or five instances here at once. The prison is remarkably damp during certain changes of the weather; the passages are then very wet. The surgeon visits the prison every day, and sometimes twice daily. He keeps a copious journal, in which the name of every disease is entered, and every case sent to the infirmary is recorded; but he also gives medicine in many trifling cases of dyspepsia, &c., which do not appear in his journal.

Statistical Report of the Medical Department of the Stafford County Prison for the year 1837.

Total number of cases of sickness, about . . .	2,543
Of whom were admitted into the hospital rooms .	353
,, not admitted, about	2,190

Average Number of Days during which each case remained on the List.

Of those admitted into hospital	16
,, not admitted.	6

List of the Diseases, with the Number of the Cases of each, admitted into the Hospital.

	Number.		Number.
Asthma	3	Epistaxis	1
Amenorrhœa	1	Eruption	4
Abscess	2	Fever, simple	15
Ague	1	,, typhoid	4
Abdominal tumour	1	Gastritis	6
Boils	5	Hœmatemesis	1
Burns	2	Hœmorrhois	2
Bilious vomiting	1	Hysteria	2
Cold	35	Hydrocele	3
Cough	12	Headache	6
Chilblain (of hand)	1	Inflamed knee	4
Consumption	2	Injury of hand requiring to be amputated	1
Constipation	2	Injury of hand with false aneurism	1
Carbuncle	1	Jaundice	1
Debility	17	Liver disease	1
Dropsy	8	Lumbago	2
Dyspepsy	2	Leucorrhœa	1
Diarrhœa	2	Mania	2
Enteritis	2	Marasmus	2
Epilepsy	3	Night-blindness	1
Erysipelas	1		

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	Number.		Number.
Otitis	1	Spasms	7
Ophthalmia	4	Scrophula	11
Pregnant, or in labour	5	Spitting blood	4
Porrigo	4	Venereal	37
Pleurisy and pleurodynia	18	Worms (tape)	4
Palsy	1	Whitlow	3
Polypus nasi	1	Wounds and bruises	6
Rheumatism	11	The cases of scabies, not included in any of the above numbers, may average about	100
Sore throat	5		
Stricture	4		
Swelled testis	6		
Sore foot and leg	41	And remain in the sick ward about six days each.	

The county provides trusses and calico, but nothing else whatever. The surgeon supplies all medicines.

The itch should be included in the surgeon's journal, with other disorders. The venereal disorders have much diminished in frequency of late years. Fever of late years has usually been of an inflammatory character, except in a few cases of vagrants. Rheumatism and bronchitis are not very common. Phthisis pulmonalis is not common. Scrofulous complaints, sore legs, broken shins, and trifling surgical cases occur frequently. About 40 years ago ague was extremely abundant in Stafford, but, in consequence of draining, it is now very rare. Whenever it appears within the prison it is imported. The surgeon sometimes sees prisoners suffering a soreness of the tongue and palate, accompanied by a remarkably clean state of the tongue. It is not attended by fever: there is no ulceration; and it is cured by borax. He thinks it depends on the vegetable character of the diet.

A well conducted prisoner acts as nurse, but it would be better in all cases that prisoners should be attended by paid officers of their own sex. A turnkey does attend as nurse when he can be spared from his other duties.

The most frequent cases of disorders which are not admitted into the infirmaries are dyspepsia, gonorrhœa, aching of the back and of the calves of the legs in the prisoners who tread the wheel, coughs, colds, and slight ulcers.

	Number of Deaths.	Number of Admissions.
In 1830	3	1425
1831	8	1611
1832	4	1783
1833	4	1824
1834	2	1757
1835	4	1685
1836	4	1867
1837 To 29th July	4	1143

There is one insane prisoner confined here at present.

I found on the 29th of July 1837, in the hospital-rooms, 13 men and 4 women. There were other prisoners placed in other apartments undergoing treatment for the itch. I saw four in this situation. There were several other prisoners taking medicine at the same time, but not placed in the hospital.

The total number of prisoners receiving medicine (exclusive of itch and including hospital cases) was 38 men and 12 women.

Solitary Confinement lasts 7 or 14 days, in a cell which may be called dark. The diet is as usual.

	Male.	Female.
Number of prisoners sentenced by courts of justice to solitary confinements, during the year ending Michaelmas 1836	85	11

PRISONERS sentenced to SOLITUDE, from the 1st of January to the 29th July 1837:—

Two Days.	Three Days.	Four Days.	Six Days.	Seven Days.	Eight Days.	Twelve Days.	Fourteen Days.	Twenty-eight Days.
2	27	1	9 Two thereof at intervals.	17 One thereof at intervals.	1	2 One thereof at 12 intervals.	23 Two thereof at intervals.	1 At intervals.

Whipping.—The ordinary number of lashes has been from one to two dozen. It is inflicted in the presence of the governor and the class to which the prisoner has belonged.

Offences and Punishments.—The chief offences are petty thefts, fighting, disorderly conduct in various ways, talking, refusing to work on the tread-wheels, singing in the night-time, disobeying orders, refractory behaviour, and repeated offences against the rules. These offences are punished by confinement in light cells, dark cells, and solitary cells, for various periods; bread and water during only from one to three days; confinement to the whipping post for one hour.

General Statistics.

No. I.—NUMBER of PUNISHMENTS for OFFENCES within the Prison in the course of the Year, ending Michaelmas 1836:—

—	Tried.		Untried.		Total.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Irons	..	..	2	..	2	..
Dark cells	4	..	9	..	13	..
Solitary cells	19	13	12	6	31	19
Stoppage of diet	20	4	4	..	24	4
Other punishments	31	..	9	..	40	..
Total	74	17	36	6	110	23

No. II.—Whipping:—

	Male.	Female.
Number of prisoners sentenced by courts of justice to be whipped privately during the above time	5	..

No. III.—Number of Prisoners (except Debtors) who have been committed before, to this or other Prisons:—

	Male.	Female.
Once	252	22
Twice	105	3
Thrice	46	2
Four times or more	24	3
Total	427	30

No. IV.—Statement of the Number of Prisoners confined in the Common Gaol and House of Correction, on 29th day of July 1837, the date of my visit:—

	Male.	Female.
Debtors	40	..
Fines, &c.	..	..
Bankrupts	1	..
For trial at the assizes	3	..
For trial at the sessions	11	..
King's evidence	..	..
Under sentence of death recorded	3	..
For transportation	25	2
Convicted prisoners	125	27
Summary commitments	133	15
For further examination	..	..
Insane	2	2
Deserters	1	..
	344	46
Total number	390	

Of 344 males, 135 have been here before. Of 46 females, 12 have been here before.

	Male.	Female.
The greatest number of prisoners at any one time in the course of the year	296	34

No. V.—Number of Prisoners confined in this Prison in the course of the Year, ending Michaelmas 1836:—

	Male.	Female.
In custody at the commencement of the year	254	24
Received under commitments, and who have not been in the custody of other gaolers	1,658	196
Received from the custody of other keepers, and enumerated in their returns to Government*	10	3
Total	1,922	223

* From the boroughs of Walsall and Newcastle-under-Lyne.

III. SOUTHERN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

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No. VI.—Ages of Prisoners (exclusive of Debtors and of Summary Convictions during the above period):—

	Male.	Female.
Under 12 years	1	..
12 years and under 14	13	3
14 „ 17	63	9
17 „ 21	242	38
21 „ 30	400	26
30 years and upwards	312	22
Total	1,031	98

No. VII.—State of Instruction of Prisoners, as above:—

	Male.	Female.
Can neither read nor write	235	20
Can read only	306	52
Can read or write, or both imperfectly	402	24
Can read or write well	88	2
Total	1,031	98

No. VIII.—Total Cost per Annum, under the following heads:—

	£.	s.	d.
Total cost of prison diet (potatoes, oatmeal, bread, salt)	1,265	4	7
„ male and female clothing	130	15	0
„ bedding (straw 41*l.* 18*s.* 3*d.*, sheets 1*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.*)	43	2	5
„ extra allowances, by order of surgeon (meat and milk)	54	3	3½
„ beer and spirits	1	7	8
„ fuel	163	2	2
„ soap	21	9	0
„ candles, gas, and oil	20	5	4
„ stationery and books	36	18	11
„ officers' fees, salaries, and emoluments	1,428	8	0
„ removal of prisoners for trial at assizes and sessions, and assistants	24	9	0
„ removing transported convicts	428	9	0
„ sundries not mentioned*	202	12	7¼
Total expenses of prison per annum	£3,820	6	11¾
Repairs and alterations in and about prison, per annum	154	19	4
Prisoners' diet per head, ditto	4	19	8
Prison clothing and bedding per head, per annum (original cost), when manufactured in the prison, and which is now in use	3	0	0

No. IX.—Scale of Tread-wheel Labour, as delivered by the Keeper.

Months employed.	Number of Working Hours per Day.	Number of Prisoners the Wheels will hold at one time.	Height of each Step.	The ordinary Velocity of the Wheels per Minute.	The ordinary Proportion of Prisoners off Wheels to the Total Number employed.	Number of Feet in Ascent per Day as per Hours of Employment.	Revolutions of the Wheels per Day.	The Daily Amount of Labour to be performed by every Prisoner.	How recorded with precision.	Application of its Power.
			Inches.	Steps.				Answered in the preceding column but one.	There is not any record, but the velocity of the wheels are regulated by a fly, or governor.	Grinding wheat for the public and prisoners, pumping water for the general use of the prison, and for cleansing all the drains, sewers, &c.
January...	7	80	7	60	One-third.	14,700	840			
February..	7½	..	..	..	..	15,750	900			
March	8	..	..	..	..	16,800	960			
April	9½	..	..	..	..	19,950	1,140			
May.....	10	..	..	..	..	21,000	1,200			
June	10	..	..	..	..	21,000	1,200			
July.....	10	..	..	..	..	21,000	1,200			
August ...	10	..	..	..	..	21,000	1,200			
September.	9½	..	..	..	..	19,950	1,140			
October...	8	..	..	..	..	16,800	960			
November .	7½	..	..	..	..	15,750	900			
December .	7	..	..	..	..	14,700	840			

No. X.—Receipts:—

	£.	s.	d.
Profits arising from productive labour done in the prison†	311	4	10¾
Amount of fines paid by prisoners, applicable to the county rate	1	0	0
Amount received from Exchequer for the subsistence of transports, for the year ending Michaelmas 1835, paid by governor and not repaid by the county‡	56	7	10
Other receipts (flour and bread sold, work in manufactory)	289	3	11½
Total	£601	8	10¼

* This sum comprises printing calendars, advertising, taxes, carriage and postage, payments to prisoners on their discharge, and various tradesmen's bills, not above particularized.

† These profits are exclusive of any charge for the prisoners pumping water, cutting hair, and shaving the prisoners, cleaning the prison, &c.

‡ This amount is paid by the governor to transports from his own pocket, and repaid to him by the sheriff when the Exchequer settles the sheriff's account.

No. XI.—Total Expenses of Prison for the Year :—

	£.	s.	d.
Total expenses of prison for the year	3,820	6	11¾
Total receipts of ditto to be deducted	601	8	10¼
Actual cost to the county, not including alterations and additions	£3,218	18	1½

No. XII.—Officers' Salaries for the Quarter ending Michaelmas 1837 :—

	£.	s.	d.
The governor	112	10	0
The chaplain	57	10	0
The surgeon	25	0	0
Taskmaster	20	0	0
First turnkey (sheriff's gaol)	17	10	0
Second ditto (house of correction)	16	5	0
Third ditto (ditto)	15	0	0
Fourth ditto (sheriff's gaol)	15	0	0
First assistant ditto (stationed at the tread-wheels)	10	10	0
Second ditto (ditto)	7	16	0
Miller and baker, and occasional turnkey	17	10	0
Lodge porter and bookkeeper	11	6	0
Matron	20	0	0
Female turnkey	6	5	0
Total	£352	2	0

The keeper appoints no turnkey himself.

The turnkeys, first assistant, miller and baker, and porter, take the watch or guard every night alternately, in addition to their other duties; but for this they are not paid anything extra.

Registration and Account Books.—Register of fines, contempts, &c., register of prisoners from the borough of Walsall, register of punishments, tradesmen's bill books, chaplain's daily journal, surgeon's daily journal, taskmaster's daily journal, prisoners' earnings' book, day books, ledger, bed and clothing book, pin account books, miller and baker's flour book, bread delivering book, wheat book, account book, mill and bakehouse journal, bread book, head turnkey's daily journal, general register or description book, prisoners' property book, register of second commitments, matron's daily journal, register of female felons and convicts, register of summary convictions, prisoners' work book, visitors' book.

XIII.—Inventory of Clothing and Bedding :—

Number of Articles.	Male.	Female.
Day-caps	1	1
Jackets	1	..
Waistcoats	1	..
Trousers	1	..
Shirts	2	..
Stockings	2	2
Clogs	1	1
Gowns	..	1
Petticoats	..	1
Shifts	..	2
Beds	1	1
Rugs	1	1
Sheets (when in the infirmary only)	2	2
Towels (in each class two towels and more, when required)	2	2
Blankets (if required)	2	2

Suggestions towards Improvement.

1. The Lords' Committee have recommended that when there is an average of 50 prisoners, a schoolmaster (not one of the prisoners) shall be appointed. Perhaps the offices of schoolmaster and clerk might be advantageously combined in the same individual.

2. In order to favour ventilation, a small opening might be made in the closed apertures of the hard labour cells.

3. To define by rule the quantity of exercise to be taken by prisoners sentenced to solitary confinement for any term exceeding three days. Perhaps one hour daily, not taken all at once, would be the medium.

4. The cells at present used for solitary confinement are as dark as the so-called dark or refractory cells of many prisons. They might easily be rendered lighter, owing to the original construction of the windows. Solitary confinement, when inflicted by sentence, is quite distinct from the temporary punishment of offences committed within the prison; and it requires a cell sufficiently well lighted to enable the inmate to read or to work with ease.

5. In one of the two female pews the female turnkey should always sit, and in the other, or so near it as to command the inmates, the matron should always be placed. If the matron objects to sit in the same pew, then she might take the place at present occupied by the task-master in the chapel.

6. To improve the ventilation of the female pews in the chapel by making a few holes, in the manner which I suggested to the governor.

7. A water-closet should be made in the female infirmary.

8. In the upper female infirmary a window should be made in the wall opposite to the prison windows, as is done in the next room.

9. A small cupboard is wanting in the female lower infirmary, in order to contain the bottles, medicines, &c.

10. A high fender is wanting in the upper female infirmary room for the fire-place.

11. The side palings which lead to the privy, in the female debtors' yard, should be closed up and made solid. At present they are a medium of communication and light between different yards.

12. To bore a few holes in the doors of the female solitary cells, in order to improve the ventilation.

13. In the female dark cell to make a hole in the wall, which opens on the adjoining yard, and a few small holes in the door, so as to make a thorough draught.

14. To make a water-closet in the male infirmary. I found only one night-stool, although there were about 14 prisoners in the infirmary, and half that number in bed.

15. I do not think it necessary to call attention minutely to some minor circumstances, in the female part,—such as a small roller wanted for the yard; the fire-place in the misdemeanour yard wanting repair; the privy in debtors' yard has the upper board broken; in all the four solitary cells the lids of the privies are broken; and, finally, a lock is wanting to the three swing gates.

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for Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

THIRD REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTORS

APPOINTED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE

ACT 5 & 6 WILL. IV. C. 38.

TO VISIT THE DIFFERENT

PRISONS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

IV.
SCOTLAND,
NORTHUMBERLAND, AND DURHAM.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY W. CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET,
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

1838.

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No. 1. Letter respecting the Separate System, as tested in the Glasgow Bridewell.

No. 2. Notice of the chief provisions of the Bill to improve Prisons and Prison Discipline in Scotland.

IV.

THIRD REPORT on the PRISONS OF SCOTLAND. &c.

To the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, Secretary of State.

MY LORD, March 13, 1838. SCOTLAND.

IN the last Report on the Prisons of Scotland, which I had the honour of presenting to your Lordship, I stated that I had then visited most of the prisons of that country, including all the largest prisons, and all but two of the second class. Since that time I have, with the exception of five or six very small ones, visited all the remaining prisons, including lock-up-houses, police-cells, and all places of detention of whatever kind. I have also been enabled to re-visit many prisons on which I had already reported. Prisons visited.

The general result of this tour of inspection has confirmed me still further in the views taken in my two previous Reports, and in the propriety of the remedial measures which I had the honour of submitting to your Lordship's consideration. Most of these measures I had the high gratification of seeing embodied in the Bill which the Honourable Fox Maule, in conjunction with your Lordship and the Lord Advocate, introduced last session into Parliament, and which is now brought forward again under the same auspices. Previous views confirmed.

The Bill, as your Lordship will remember, was favourably received both by Parliament and the country at large; and after having undergone a very careful examination by a select committee, was, with general concurrence, returned to the House of Commons with its main principles unaltered. The dissolution of Parliament, however, consequent on the demise of the Crown, having stopped the progress of the Bill for a time, I took advantage of the delay and of the tour of inspection on which I immediately entered, to afford every explanation in my power of the objects and reasons of the various provisions of the Bill. I felt little doubt that a great part of the opposition that had been shown (moderate as that opposition was in amount) arose from misapprehension; and I found that such was, in fact, the case. In my interviews with the different local authorities, both in the counties and burghs, my statements have been received with attention and candour; and I trust that I have succeeded in reconciling many to the Bill who had thought they had grounds of complaint. With a view of confirming any impression that may have thus been made, and of addressing those whom I have not had an opportunity of seeing, I have prepared an abstract of the chief provisions of the Bill, in its present form, and of the grounds on which they are based. This abstract appears in the Appendix. Scottish Prisons Bill. Objections arising from misapprehension. Abstract of the Bill.

I was, of course, desirous of employing most of the time which I gave to the explanation of the Prisons Bill with those parties who had opposed it; but I had also the pleasure of frequently meeting persons who strongly approved of the measure; and I often heard an earnest hope expressed that it would soon pass into a law. Much of this feeling in favour of the Bill arises, I am sure, from the simple wish to see the existing evils removed, and the Prisons of Scotland placed under an enlightened system. Some of it, however, has its origin, and not unreasonably, in the desire to be relieved from the unjust burden which at present falls upon a portion of the community. The nature of this injustice is fully explained in my previous Reports; my attention, however, has been particularly called to the cases of Edinburgh and Banff at the present time. Owing to the accidental circumstance of some persons who had been engaged in a riot at Hawick being tried in Edinburgh, the inhabitants of this city are saddled with the maintenance of the offenders during the whole term of their confinement, a period of several months. The cotton-spinners, also, who were lately brought to trial, remained a considerable time a charge (and a very troublesome one it proved to be) upon the city of Edinburgh, although their offences were committed at Glasgow. In the case of Banff the burgh is required to pay for the maintenance of prisoners tried and imprisoned at Aberdeen, because the offences, though not committed in the burgh of Banff, took place in some part of Banffshire. These cases are somewhat contradictory; but they are not the only anomalies in the present state of things. Injustice of present system. Cases of Edinburgh and Banff.

SCOTLAND.

Perth Depôt and Fort George.

In my last Report I took the liberty of suggesting that the Military Depôt at Perth (built for the reception of French prisoners), and part of Fort George, should be converted into Penitentiaries; the former to serve for the eastern, and the latter for the northern part of the country. Since then these buildings have been surveyed by an architect. Mr. Brebner, also, the skilful and experienced Governor of the Glasgow Bridewell, has visited the depôt at Perth, and has examined the plans of Fort George. And I am happy to say that both these gentlemen concur in the opinion which I had formed, that these places may be readily converted into good Penitentiaries. The depôt at Perth will be capable of receiving nearly 500 prisoners; and such part of Fort George as it is proposed to use as a Prison (a greater portion not being required) will hold about 150; every prisoner having a separate cell. There is a detached portion of Fort George, too, which can readily be converted into a prison for lunatic offenders, sufficient for the whole number of such offenders in Scotland.

Glasgow Bridewell.

I also proposed that the Glasgow Bridewell should be greatly enlarged, with a view to its being turned into a Penitentiary for the western side of Scotland, and of its becoming, indeed, the main Prison of the country. There is already land for an enlargement to some extent, and the Prisons Bill provides for the purchase of additional land.

Local Prisons required.

In my late tour, as in my previous one, I extended my inquiries to places where Prisons are wanted, but where none exist at present; and this branch of my inquiry is now complete, with the exception of three or four counties. An enumeration of Prisons required, and of existing Prisons which it will be necessary to rebuild, alter, or repair, will (with the exceptions just mentioned) be found under the heads of the respective counties, in this and my last Report. The number is large, but very small prisons will generally suffice, and in many cases the want is not urgent.

Facts collected in late tour accord with previous ones.

Having in my last Report given a general view of the Prisons in Scotland, of the condition of the prisoners, and the state of discipline, it is unnecessary to do more at present than mention that the facts collected in my late tour are in accordance with the picture there given, and go still further to show the necessity for a decisive change.

Increase in number of Prisoners.

I stated in my last Report that the present average number of criminal prisoners in Scotland is between 1400 and 1500; and that the total average of prisoners, including debtors and offenders under the revenue laws, is between 1500 and 1600. During the last year (1837), several of the Prisons have been unusually full, and these numbers have been considerably exceeded; though, as I have not obtained returns from all the Prisons, I am unable to state to what extent; I should, however, estimate the increase at about 150.

How caused.

This increase appears to have been chiefly caused by the bad state of trade during a great part of the year, and by the strikes among the workmen. One fact in corroboration of this is that at Aberdeen, which has escaped entirely from the commercial distress (and where I believe there have been no strikes among the workmen), the number of prisoners has not been at all greater than usual; and that the greatest increase of prisoners (as far as I am aware) has been at Glasgow and Paisley, where there was much commercial distress, and where the strikes among the workmen have been notorious.

Habits of idleness and fluctuations of income.

As far as I could gather from an examination of many prisoners, it was not so much in a direct way, by cutting down the supply of the necessaries of life, that the interruption to trade produced offences, as in an indirect way, by begetting habits of idleness, and by causing, at its commencement and termination, sudden changes in the workmen's income. Out of about ninety prisoners whom I examined separately at Dundee, only three or four assigned want as the cause of their offence. Some places indeed during the continuance of the distress, were unusually free from breaches of the laws; owing it is believed to the inability of the working classes to expend much money in whiskey. This was said to be strikingly the case at Girvan, a small manufacturing town in Ayrshire. On the revival of trade, however, people hurried back to the whiskey shop with renewed appetite, and there was a sudden increase in the number of assaults and other breaches of the peace.

Combinations to force up wages.

Of all offences now common in Scotland, those arising out of combinations of the workmen are, in my opinion, by far the most formidable; not only on account of the great amount of suffering produced, but because the sympathies of a considerable body of the people are in favour of the offenders and in opposition to the law. Not as I hope, that any great number would sanction such offences as those of which some of the Glasgow cotton-spinners were lately convicted, but there is no doubt

that very many agree in the propriety of preventing (by any means short of gross personal violence) those working who are content to do so at, what is in fact, the market rate of wages.

As it can be readily shown that all attempts to force up wages are in the long run unsuccessful, and, in truth, that they produce the very opposite effect to that intended, the feeling in their favour must necessarily proceed from ignorance; and there is little doubt that the better and larger portion of those who now join these combinations, and who really deceive themselves into the belief that they have justice on their side, might be induced to withdraw from them if means were taken to enlighten such persons on the real consequences of their proceedings. A few able, well-informed men, with the power of public speaking, who should make themselves masters of the many facts which sad experience has now furnished, and who should give public lectures on the subject, and offer to meet the advocates of combinations in public discussion, would, I am satisfied, do much towards opening the eyes of the workpeople to their true interests, and remedying the present evil. To those who look to combinations as a means of living on their fellow workmen, in the capacity of committee-men, &c., reason and expostulation would of course be vain. The ground however would soon slip from under their feet if the body of workmen became better informed; and if by an increased strength of police, and a provision of adequate prison accommodation, there were a power (*which at present there assuredly is not*) to apprehend and punish all who interfere with those who are willing to labour.

Founded in ignorance.

Proposed remedies.

I made inquiries at most places where strikes had taken place, as to whether the workmen would probably attend lectures on this subject if they were given; and the opinion generally entertained was, that they would do so. I was told indeed that at Hawick a course of such lectures was delivered about two years ago; and that there had not in fact been any strike there since that time; though how far cause and effect are traceable in this circumstance I am unable to say; as it was at a considerable distance from Hawick that I received the information. Another fact which speaks much for the result that may be anticipated from superior enlightenment, is, that, so far as the Committee of Management are aware, not a single member of the mechanics' institution of Glasgow (containing about 600 members) has ever been concerned in a strike.

No member of Mechanics' Institution at Glasgow concerned in any strike.

The peaceable conduct of the workmen in other respects at the time of some of their strikes is another encouraging circumstance. The sheriff-substitute at Dundee told me that about two years ago, when there was a strike in that town—a strike which lasted many weeks, and which was attended with great privations to the working classes—the conduct of the people, except as regards the means taken for preventing persons working at the proscribed scale of wages, was quite peaceable. He said that he had often occasion to pass through crowds of the workmen standing in the streets, but that he never received any insult or annoyance, although as local judge he had frequently to punish members of their body for molesting those who continued working.

In any attempt that might be made to give the workmen an insight into the real effects of strikes, the greatest difficulty I apprehend would be with the colliers (among whom combinations are very common) who, in Scotland, are generally described as worse educated and more addicted to intoxication than most other classes of the people. The trade of a collier, however, is soon learnt; and if reason were employed as far as it would go, and full protection were afforded to new hands, there is little doubt that combinations even among the colliers would soon relax and die away.

Difficulty as respects Colliers.

That much depends even under present circumstances, on the activity of a few in keeping up combinations, may be inferred from the fact, that on the late arrest of the committee of the combined cotton-spinners at Glasgow, the workmen as a body immediately returned to their employment.

In my late tour, as in my preceding one, I made a point wherever I went of inquiring into the state of crime; its increase or decrease; the kinds of offences now most common; and the probable number of offenders at large. And, as before, I have appended the information thus collected to the reports on the Prisons of the separate places. I have again the high gratification of being enabled to state to your Lordship that my inquiries have shown, almost invariably, that the offences now committed are of a much milder character than those that were perpetrated thirty or forty years ago; and that the total amount of crime, when compared with the extent of population, has much decreased. As evidence of this I beg leave to

State of Crime.

Crime of milder character than formerly, and less in amount.

SCOTLAND.

refer your Lordship, among other reports, to those on Hamilton, Dundee, Kilmarnock, Port Glasgow, Kirkcudbrightshire, Renfrewshire, and Argyleshire. To the best of my recollection I have not found a single case in which, upon a close examination, there has appeared evidence of an increase in the number of serious offences (compared with the amount of population), or a diminished feeling of security against their recurrence. If exceptions do exist, they arise from the combinations, I have spoken of, to prevent freedom of labour. These combinations, however, are by no means new; though owing to the repeal of what were called the combination laws, they are less concealed from the public eye than formerly.

Small number of offenders.

A cheering circumstance with regard to most kinds of crime in Scotland, is the small number of persons to whom the commission of offences is chiefly confined. I had the honour of calling your Lordship's attention to this fact in my last Report; and my present Report contains much that is corroborative of it; although the information obtained is not always so definite and certain as might have been the case had I had more time, and had I not been compelled to regard the collection of such matter as a secondary object. For examples of places in which the number of offenders is small and well known, I would refer to the cases of Peebles, Kirkcudbright, Hamilton, and Kilmaurs (Ayrshire).

Crime often hereditary.

I stated in my last Report, that I found crime to a considerable extent running in families, and apparently hereditary. My recent inquiries serve to confirm this remark; as your Lordship will perceive by referring, among other cases, to those of Hamilton and Biggar in Lanarkshire, Irvine (Ayrshire), Dunse (Berwickshire), and Northumberland.

Mere punishment should not be the main object of imprisonment.

This hereditary character of crime is alone, in my opinion, a strong reason why mere punishment should cease to be regarded as the main object of imprisonment; and why such a system should be gradually adopted as shall secure the withdrawal of every offender from society at the earliest possible age; that he may be trained to new feelings and habits, or where that is found impossible kept permanently separate from the outer world.

Certain occupations appear to lead to Offences.

Crime appears to be not only hereditary to a considerable extent, but also in some degree to belong to particular occupations. Thus I find that carters, as a class, are more addicted to stealing than people following most other employments; the stolen articles consisting generally of farm-produce, coals, &c., which they have many opportunities of taking, and for which they have a ready consumption; the hay and corn thus obtained enabling them to spend in drink money which must otherwise have gone to buy food for their horses. Wandering tinkers have earned so bad a reputation in Scotland that their name is now almost synonymous with *thief*. Not only in these cases, but as a general rule, I have found that those who are in the habit of moving from place to place, commit an undue share of the offences; though doubtless there is a mixture of cause and effect in this, one reason of persons quitting one place of abode after another, being that they have committed offences and fallen under suspicion.

Colliers and fishermen I have often found; as classes, to be in the frequent practice of committing assaults and other breaches of the peace (generally from drunkenness) but to be for the most part honest.

Unequal supply of employment leads to crime.

Places in which there is an unequal supply of employment, as for instance where the adult population has plenty to do, but where there is a want of work for the young, are generally distinguished for the amount of crime; though the crime is often of a petty kind. Greenock is a case in point in my district; and I observe that in his last Report, Captain Williams explains the excess of crime at Liverpool partly on this principle: Captain Williams further remarks that "The daily employment of children appears to be greatly influential in saving them from falling into crime. The annual number of this class of delinquents in the New Bailey at Manchester does not increase. In the house of correction at the busy Preston they are comparatively few. At Carlisle gaol, since the establishment of cotton manufactories, the chaplain has, from their diminution, found it unnecessary to continue them as a separate class of prisoners."*

Drunkenness the chief immediate cause of crime in Scotland.

The chief immediate cause of crime in Scotland at the present time (so far as my information extends) is, as I stated in my last Report, drunkenness; including in that term the excitement of partial intoxication, and the desire to procure the means of satisfying the thirst for spirituous and fermented liquors. And the chief remote cause is, in my opinion, ignorance, and the want of a cultivated taste for other than mere sensual gratifications.

* Second Report on the Prisons of the Northern and Eastern District of England, p. 86.

Of the places which I have lately visited, the following are among those which most abound in crime and disorder:—Biggar, in Lanarkshire; Kilwinning and Saltcoats in Ayrshire; Pollockshaws in Renfrewshire; Crieff in Perthshire; and Port-patrick in Wigtownshire. The chief causes of the excess of crime in these places appear to be the feeble and unorganised state of the police, the want of prison accommodation, and the want of ready means of administering justice; though all three causes are not in every instance found united.

Places where there are many offences.

Among the most peaceable and honest places I passed through in my late tour are Peebles, Kirkcudbright, Catrine and Kilmaurs in Ayrshire, Port Glasgow, New Lanark and Carnwath in Lanarkshire, Lauder in Berwickshire, and North Berwick in East Lothian. The same attention to the education and general happiness of the people of New Lanark which existed when the mills were under the management of Mr. Owen, appears to be paid by the present proprietor. And so successful is the system in preventing crime, that the Procurator Fiscal for this ward of the county, who resides within a mile of New Lanark, told me that only two offences had come to his knowledge during the last six years. Catrine in Ayrshire is like New Lanark. It is a large country mill, in a picturesque situation, with the land all round belonging to one body of proprietors; who have the means, as they have also the wisdom and benevolence, to adopt such plans as are calculated to promote the real comfort and welfare of the people in their employment. And, notwithstanding what has been said on the subject of factories, I have no hesitation in declaring that I believe that the workpeople at Catrine, New Lanark, and other similar establishments, form some of the healthiest, happiest, and most moral communities in the world.

Places nearly free from crime.

New Lanark.

Catrine.

It is deserving of notice, with respect to the village of Carnwath in Lanarkshire, that the inhabitants are chiefly hand-loom weavers—a class of people who, under ordinary circumstances, are rather distinguished for the number of offenders. At Carnwath, however, any peculiar tendency to breaches of the law that may exist in this portion of the community appears to be more than neutralized, by the circumstance of the inhabitants having generally each a plot of ground near the village, in the cultivation of which they spend much of their leisure.

Carnwath.

I have the pleasure of again being able to report to your Lordship improvements in several of the Scottish prisons. These improvements consist for the most part of minor alterations in the buildings, the separation (as far as possible) of the prisoners, their useful employment, increased attention to cleanliness, the substitution of a dietary for a money allowance, the appointment of a female officer, and a provision for instruction. The greatest difficulty I have had (and one that I have not always overcome) in effecting improvements, has been to induce the local authorities to remove inefficient and incompetent officers. Not being familiar with the subject of prison discipline they are not always aware of the importance of certain qualifications; and are therefore too much influenced, sometimes, by their natural wish to befriend the keeper as an individual.

Prison Improvements.

The following is a list of the places where the prisons have been improved to a greater or less extent during the last year. The nature of the improvements will be seen by referring to the separate Reports.

Aberdeen	Edinburgh Gaol	Kirkwall
—— Bridewell	—— Bridewell	Lanark
—— Gaol	Glasgow	Lerwick
Airdrie	—— Bridewell	Linlithgow
Arbroath	—— Calton	Montrose
Ayr	—— Gorbals	Perth
Brechin	Greenock	Peebles
Campbeltown	Hamilton	Stranraer
Dumfries	Inverness	Wigtown.
Dundee	Kirkcudbright	

The continued experience of the separate system has confirmed my conviction of its reasonableness and efficacy; and I am more and more satisfied, that while on the one hand it prevents the danger and corruption arising from the association of criminals, it is not on the other hand attended with gloomy depression of the mind or baneful effects on the health: and that it places the offender in that position in which there is the best opportunity for cultivating the higher feelings of his nature, and raising his ideas to new and superior objects. It has been supposed that separation leads sometimes to insanity or idiotcy; but, under good management, I am satisfied that it has no such effect. Certainly no instance of the kind ever came to

Separate system.

Neither Insanity nor Idiotsy produced.

SCOTLAND.

my knowledge; and the Governor of the Glasgow Bridewell assures me that there has not been a single case in that prison, during the whole twenty-five years that it has been under his charge.

The following striking fact proves that the separate system is not always, at least, productive of the painful sensations that have been attributed to it. There are at the present time five inmates of the Glasgow Bridewell, who are there of their own free will; some of them having asked permission to remain after the expiration of their sentences, and the others having petitioned to be admitted. It may be said, indeed, that this fact proves too much, for that a prison ought never to become a place of attraction. It appears to me, however, that those who are willing to submit to the restrictions and labour of such a prison as the Glasgow Bridewell must be in so destitute a state as to be under strong temptations to crime; and that it is therefore fortunate when they consent to give up their personal liberty for a time.

Voluntary Prisoners.

The separate system is now in full operation (except when there is an excess of prisoners) at the bridewells of Glasgow, Aberdeen, and Paisley, and at the prisons of Ayr, Dundee, Montrose, and Lerwick. It is also acted upon to a considerable extent at the Edinburgh bridewell, at the prisons of Lanark, Hamilton, Greenock, and Rothesay, and at several smaller prisons; alterations, also, are in progress for its introduction at Perth.

Where the separate system is in use.

Highly, however, as I think of the plan of separation, I am strongly of opinion that it should always be accompanied with useful employment, instruction, opportunities of reading, frequent visits of officers, and daily exercise in the open air. Not, however, that I think we should always wait until all these accessories can be obtained; for so great are the evils of association among criminals, that in my opinion it is better to dispense with one or two of these desiderata than to allow such evils to continue. I regret, indeed, to say, that there is not yet a single prison in Scotland in which all the advantages I have named are united. I have, however never ventured to recommend separation, unless employment and the frequent visits of an officer, at least, could be secured. As regards daily exercise in the open air, though I think it very desirable, experience would appear to show that it is not essential, (at least for moderate periods); for I have found that the non-existence of a regular provision for it, is not inconsistent with a comparatively high degree of health and a small amount of mortality. Since the introduction of the separate system at Ayr, for example, (now about two years ago), there has not been a single death, nor a single case of serious illness; and the average of deaths in the Glasgow bridewell is less than two per cent. per annum on the average number of inmates. Yet, at neither of these is there at present a provision for each prisoner going every day into the open air.

Desirable accompaniments.

Small amount of mortality.

Before closing these few remarks on the continued experience of the Separate System, I think it right to call your Lordship's attention to a statement of deductions from my report on the Glasgow Bridewell which appears in the Special Report of the Visiting Justices of the House of Correction, Coldbath-fields. Most of these deductions appear to me to be incorrect, and I have addressed a letter on the subject to the Clerk of the Peace, Clerkenwell (who, by direction of the Justices, had sent me a copy of the Report), to which I beg leave to refer your Lordship. The letter is contained in the Appendix.

Report of Middlesex Magistrates.

Many persons have objected to prisoners being engaged in productive labour; on the ground that it interferes with the labour of persons out of prison. And as productive labour is one of the main principles that I have upheld in a system of prison government, I trust I may be allowed to make a few observations on this subject.

That injury should by any possibility arise from the circumstance of a number of people being employed in honest industry, and in producing useful articles, for which there is a demand in society, is one of those anomalies which (as far as my experience goes) will be generally found, on a close examination, to be based in error. If it be wise to maintain prisoners in idleness, or (what is the same thing to society) in unproductive labour, it must, for aught that I can see, be equally wise to maintain other people in idleness; those, for example, who live in a certain street of every town, or whose name begins with a certain letter of the alphabet.

Productive Labour in Prisons.

Even supposing it could be shown that some other members of society do lose the profit obtained by prisoners, still it would not follow that the lucrative employment of prisoners does mischief; for whatever others might gain by the cessation of prisoners' labour, would be lost by society at large in the additional cost of maintaining the prisoners: so that the only effect would be to throw upon other persons the

Objections examined.

labour by which the profit was earned, instead of that labour being performed by prisoners.

It would appear then, that if prisoners are to cease working, either society must perform the labour now done by them, or society must be content to be poorer by the amount of profit obtained by that labour. Whether society would perform the labour, or whether the labour, or an amount equal to it, would go unperformed, would, I apprehend, depend on the state of trade, &c., at the particular time. If, at such time, things were in their natural state,—that is, if there were a sufficient amount of profitable labour for all who chose to work,—an employer having about as much difficulty in procuring a workman, as a workman in procuring an employer,—then the work, if not done by prisoners, would probably go undone; or, what is the same thing, an equal amount of some other kind of work would go undone. Again, if trade were excessively brisk, and there were a great difficulty in procuring workmen, then, not only would the work go altogether unperformed but a greater extent of inconvenience and injury to society would be created than the mere amount of labour, under ordinary circumstances, would indicate. Lastly, if trade were excessively dull, and there were great difficulty in procuring employment, the direct benefit to society from the labour of prisoners would be trifling; and might be dispensed with in the same way as might the labour of any other moderate number of workmen; the remaining body of workmen being, under such circumstances, fully able to perform all the labour demanded. But, as in one case, the total amount of profitable labour would not be increased by an illness or any other cause which disabled a number of free-workers, so in the other case the amount could not be increased by the idleness of prisoners.

The idea that prison labour is injurious to society probably arises from the circumstance of prisons being often placed without reference to the labour market, and where things being stationary to a considerable extent, the immediate effect of the introduction of any new hands must be to displace some of the ordinary workers. In this case, however, it is not the prison labour in itself, that produces the annoyance, but the mode in which that labour is called into action; and exactly the same kind of evil would be caused by a shoemaker, who, without first examining his ground, should go and establish himself in a village which was already fully supplied by a brother of the craft. After a time the matter would right itself by one of the rivals moving off to a town where cobblers were in request; and in the same way the introduction of prison labour, in a district where there was at first no room for it, would eventually be balanced by the withdrawal of some of the free labourers to a place where employment was more abundant. Prison work, however, thus forced into existence, would probably never prove so profitable as work taken, in the first instance, to a good labour market.

Before the quitting this subject I would just remind the objectors to prison labour of one great fault which is constantly found with criminals, and one chief cause, that is pointed out to them, of their bad courses—I mean *idleness*. But if, by engaging in labour, they would have displaced other workers, why regret that they should have been unemployed? and why upbraid them with their laziness? If their labour in prison will be mischievous, their labour out of prison must have been equally so. And it appears to me, that the objectors in question are bound to admire these persons as martyrs to the public good, and as willing and necessary sacrifices on the altar of indolence.

National house of refuge.

In my two previous reports I took the liberty of pointing out the great service which would be rendered by a national House of Refuge in Scotland; and I would again venture to submit this subject to your Lordship's consideration; as I believe that by no system of prison discipline can the reform of offenders, of many at least, be completed, unless there be a place to which they may go after leaving prison, when situations for them have not been obtained. If the locality were well chosen, and the management economic and efficient, such an establishment might, I am satisfied, be made nearly self-supporting. I would have neither bolts, bars, nor high walls; no compulsion to remain; on the contrary, the only terms on which an inmate should be allowed to stay would be peaceable demeanour and good conduct. If he be turbulent and will not submit to the regulations of the place, it is a sign that he has left prison too soon; and the probability is, that on expulsion from the Refuge he will speedily commit a new offence, and be again placed in confinement. It should, I submit, be clearly laid down that the Refuge is intended for those only who are sincerely desirous of entering on an industrious and honest course of life. And, in order to prevent any possibility of creating a distinction in

favour of a criminal, and to extend the advantages of the Refuge as far as possible, I should strongly recommend that the place be open to all who choose to enter; but that the regimen and quantity of labour required be such that none will be likely to avail themselves of it except those who, from their forlorn condition, are in fact dangerous members of society, and likely to resort to crime as a means of subsistence. Nothing can, I think, be better than Captain Brenton's plan of preparing the inmates of houses of refuge for situations as agricultural labourers in the colonies; the emigration being quite voluntary; and no one being selected for it until he has shown, by diligence and good conduct, that he will probably give satisfaction to his employer.

Cure and prevention of crime.

If, in addition to the establishment of good prisons in Scotland, upon one general and comprehensive system, with a national house of refuge, such as I have ventured to describe, an efficient police were provided, and some changes made in the criminal laws, and in the already excellent mode of administering these laws, the corrective system in Scotland would, I think, be in a high state of perfection; and much would be done towards the prevention of crime.

A yet wider field, however, as regards prevention, remains open in the general and enlightened education of the people; in the removal of causes of poverty and disease; in the prevention of those sudden fluctuations of income which now expose the labouring man to the temptations of alternate penury and affluence; and lastly, in providing the people with constant opportunities of obtaining healthful recreation and innocent amusement.

Northumberland and Durham.

In addition to the prisons of Scotland I have now examined the chief prisons of Northumberland and Durham (those remaining being little more than lock-up houses), and the prison of Berwick-upon-Tweed.

With the exception of the prison at Berwick and the small one at Hexham, the prisons which I have visited in these counties are much better than the generality of the Scottish prisons; especially in order and cleanliness. To the best of the Scottish prisons, however, they are greatly inferior.

Not a good district for large prisons.

It should be remarked, that Northumberland and Durham do not form a good district for large prisons; owing to the staple occupations—mining and agriculture—not being such as to afford ready employment to prisoners. It is, therefore, to be regretted that so much money has been expended in the erection of prisons there; especially as those on which most has been laid out (the prisons at Newcastle, Morpeth and Durham,) are on a bad construction. If profitable work for prisoners can be obtained at Carlisle (which I should think probable, now that cotton manufactories have been established there), the best plan, as it appears to me, for these counties to follow would be, to enter into an arrangement with the local authorities of Cumberland for sending all prisoners sentenced to long periods of confinement to Carlisle; which the rail-road, now nearly complete, between Newcastle and that town, will render quite practicable.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient servant,

FREDERIC HILL.

REPORTS ON SEPARATE PRISONS.

REPORTS ON SEPARATE PRISONS.

SELKIRK.

Scotland.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Selkirk.

Population about 2000.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison of Selkirk is well situated. It stands at the outside of the town on the slope of a hill. The construction, though far from perfect, is better than that of most other small prisons in Scotland; and considering that this prison was built more than thirty years ago, when comparatively little was known about prison discipline, the plan does credit to those concerned. The most crying evil in prisons at that period was the sacrifice of the health of the inmates, and this appears to have been specially guarded against; but some, at least, of the moral evils of an ill-constructed prison were allowed to remain; for the cells are so arranged that it is impossible to prevent the prisoners from communicating with one another, and there is no provision for setting the prisoners to work. The prison is built in a substantial manner, and is surrounded by a high wall, the area between the prison and the wall being used partly as an airing ground and partly as a garden. At the entrance to this area is the keeper's house. With the exception of boarded floors to three of the cells the whole of the prison is built of stone, the ceilings being arched. There are 2 day-rooms and 9 cells, their dimensions being as follows:—

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
Debtors' Day-room	14½	14	8½	1760
Criminals' do.	14½	8½	8½	1070
9 Cells, each	8½	6½	7½	410

State of the Prison.

The rooms are all dry. Three of them are warmed by open fires, and one of these three has a boarded floor; the others are not warmed in any way, and in winter they must be very cold. I found the prison clean, and the surgeon told me that it was always so when he had occasion to visit it. The prison appears to be tolerably secure. The last instance of escape occurred about five years ago, but since that time the outer wall has been raised.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There were 4 prisoners at the time of my visit, which is about 2 more than the average number. One of the prisoners was an idiot, who had been lodged in the prison till his name and parish could be discovered. He had been brought to the prison, I was told, in a filthy state, and covered with vermin; but he had been washed, and appeared to be tolerably clean when I saw him: he was in bed, however, for want of clothes; his own, which were very dirty, having been taken away, and there being no others to supply him with. One of the other prisoners, too, a woman, was not properly clad. There is no rule which obliges the prisoners to wash themselves, and I found one of them dirty, though the others were clean.

The total number of prisoners last year (exclusive of about 40 vagrants confined for a single night) was 15; viz. 13 males and 2 females.

Health.

Health.—No sick list has been kept, but I was informed that the prisoners generally enjoy good health, and that upon the whole, they appear to leave the gaol in better health than they enter it. There has not been any death for several years. The usual complaints are catarrh and slight fever; the former brought on to some extent by the coldness of some of the cells in winter. No prisoner was ill at the time of my visit.

Food.

Food.—A money allowance of 4*d.* per day, except to vagrants who get only 2*d.* Out of this the prisoners have generally to buy their own fuel, though, occasionally, an extra allowance is made for fuel. The money allowance gives rise, as usual, to cooking in the cells, and I consequently found a fire in one of them at the time of my visit, though it was the middle of summer. In this way an unnecessary expense is incurred, the cell is heated injuriously for health, and some risk is created of setting fire to the building.—Debtors generally receive from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.* a-day. Additional supplies from without are allowed to all prisoners.

Clothing.

Clothing.—None supplied.

Bedding.

Bedding.—Two double blankets and some loose straw. The bed-clothes are washed once or twice a-year.

Discipline.

Discipline, &c.—None. The prisoners are not employed in any way, and they can readily communicate with each other. I found two of them in the same cell, and, except in peculiar cases, all have access to the yard, during some part of the day at least. The sheriff-substitute informed me that this facility of communication had been found practically to interfere in attaining the ends of justice. There is no regular provision for instruction, but there was a case lately, of two or three boys who were confined for a considerable time, to whom the minister of the parish was kind enough to give a good deal of instruction; and I was informed that the boys improved so much, that on their leaving prison it was found possible to obtain situations for them, and it is believed that they are now doing well. The prisoners are not generally assembled for public worship more than three or four times a-year.—I was told that the regular prisoners seldom commit any offences, but that vagrants (who often come in drunk) sometimes break the windows. The usual punishment is increased length of confinement: corporal punishment is never inflicted.

Female Prisoners.

Female Prisoners.—When there is a female prisoner the gaoler's wife generally looks after her to some extent, but not entirely. No difference is made in the treatment of males and females.

Debtors.

Debtors.—There has not been any debtor in the prison for the last three years. Debtors are allowed the use of the prison bedding, and they are permitted to see their friends, and receive supplies of food from without.

Miscellaneous.—The only difference made between convicted and unconvicted prisoners is that the unconvicted are not allowed to receive visits during the period of examination, and that they are kept more separate than the convicted prisoners. Visits are generally allowed on an order from the sheriff or magistrate; and letters are permitted subject to the inspection of the gaoler. Smoking tobacco was allowed till within the last few months, but it is now forbidden; taking snuff, however, and chewing tobacco are still permitted. Visits, &c.

Officers.—The only regular officer is the keeper, who, from what I saw and could learn, appears to be as well qualified as can be expected for the salary given, viz., 16*l.* a-year and house-room. He keeps the prison in a much cleaner state than the generality of other small prisons, and I received no complaints concerning him. There is a surgeon who attends when sent for, and who has the medical care of all the prisoners. There is no chaplain. Officers.

Fees.—The gaoler receives 4*s.* on the admission of a debtor, and 4*d.* a night during his stay. The first is paid by the creditor, the latter by the debtor. There are no other fees. Fees.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, but in an imperfect manner. The town-treasurer and collector of rogue-money together keep an account of expenditure. The following is an abstract of the expenditure for the year ending 30th May, 1837; (about an average year):— Accounts.

				£.	*s.*	*d.*	
Food for criminals (allowed in money)				7	7	8	Expenditure.
Repair				3	8	1	
Salaries.							
Keeper	£16	0	0				
Surgeon (including medicines)	1	0	0				
				17	0	0	
Total				£27	15	9	

Of this sum 6*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* was paid by the county, and the remainder by the burgh.
Average number of prisoners during the year 1½ (criminals).
Average cost of each prisoner during the year about 18*l.*; daily cost about 1*s.* Cost per Head.

General Observations.—Comparatively little good can be effected by this prison under the present arrangements. The account does not show how many re-commitments take place, but they are of common occurrence. The woman now in confinement is a noted thief, who has been many times in this and other prisons. General Observations.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Jurisdiction.

July, 1837.

Before leaving Selkirk I recommended the Magistrates to adopt the following rules, &c., in their prison; but I have never been informed whether my recommendations have been carried into effect:— Improvements recommended.

1. *Admittance.*—Every prisoner, on his admittance, to be carefully examined, that it may be ascertained whether he has any disorder, and whether he has anything in his possession unsuitable to a prison.
2. *Separation.*—The prisoners to be kept separate, as far as the accommodation of the prison will admit.
3. *Female Superintendence.*—The female prisoners to be placed under the care o fthe gaoler's wife.
4. *Food.*—The money allowance to be abolished, and a plain dietary to be substituted. (The dietary at the Paisley Bridewell—see Second Report on the Prisons of Scotland, page 112—is suggested; but convenience and local circumstances may make it expedient to adopt some other.) Supplies of food from without, and luxuries of all kinds, including tobacco in every form, to be forbidden.
5. *Cleanliness.*—Every prisoner to be required to wash himself twice a-day; that is, to wash his hands and face in the morning, and his hands, face, neck, and arms in the evening; and no prisoner to receive his breakfast or supper until he has obeyed this regulation.
6. *Fires.*—No fires to be allowed except in cold weather.
7. *Clothes.*—Two or three suits of strong clothes to be bought, and to be lent to prisoners, who, like the woman now in confinement, have not decent and sufficient clothes of their own.
8. *Bedding.*—A few mattresses to be procured, to hold the straw, which at present lies loose.

The memorandum of the foregoing rules, &c., was accompanied with the following letter to the Provost:—

Dear Sir,

The sheriff-substitute has undertaken to apply to the Court of Justiciary, to have the Selkirk prison legalized as a bridewell, in accordance with what we were saying this morning. If he should succeed, I should then recommend that all prisoners convicted after that time be immediately set to work, and that the untried be *encouraged* to work.

The foregoing are all the changes that I propose at present; because, while the Prisons' Bill is pending, I am reluctant to recommend anything which can entail much expense.

I would remark that these regulations apply to females equally with males, but not to debtors.

I shall feel obliged by your writing to inform me when the changes have come into operation. I enclose a memorandum of my address.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(Signed) FREDERIC HILL.

Dr. Clarkson,
Provost of Selkirk.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

County of Selkirk.

COUNTY OF SELKIRK.

Population about 7,000.

Existing Prisons. *Prisons existing at present.*—Two, viz., one at Selkirk and a small lock-up house at Thirlstain.

Additional Prison wanted. *Additional Prison wanted.*—A small one at Galashiels, a town containing a manufacturing population of about 2500. This prison might serve for Melrose also.

Crime, &c. *State of Crime in the burgh and county of Selkirk.*—There is but little positive crime, but there are a good many offences against the game-laws and against a late Act for preventing public fishing in the Tweed; assaults, too, are rather common. It is believed that there are not more than about 12 persons residing in the county who are in the habit of stealing. Many offences, however, are committed by vagrants. The offenders are, as a class, more addicted to drunkenness than others in the same rank of life, and it is observed that many of them are the children of negligent parents.

Drunkenness.

Police. *State of the Police.*—There is one active and efficient officer in the county, but only one.

PEEBLES.

Population about 2400.

Peebles.

Site, construction, &c. The prison of Peebles is about equal to that of Selkirk, and is similarly situated, being on the outskirts of the town, and separate from all other buildings. The prison consists of three stories, the highest of which was put up about two years ago, at an expense of between 300*l.* and 400*l.*, the chief part of which was defrayed by the county. Owing, however, to a delay in applying to the Courts of Session and Justiciary for a legal sanction, this new portion of the building has hitherto been turned to little account. The second story (the only part in which prisoners are at present confined, the lower story being occupied by the families of the gaoler and his assistant), consists of three rooms only, all of which are ill ventilated. This part of the building, however, was erected 40 years ago, when ventilation was little thought of. The new story is better in this respect, but is, nevertheless, but ill adapted for the introduction of a good Prison discipline, one great fault in it being that most of the cells open into each other. The Prison is built entirely of stone, and in a substantial manner, and the area in which it is placed is surrounded by a high wall. The site appears to be dry and healthy. The following are the dimensions of the rooms and cells:—

Rooms or Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
2	14	12	8	1340
1	12	9	8	860
2	12	6½	8	620
2	12	7½	8	720
1	11½	9	8	830
8				

State of the Prison. There is an airing-yard, which, however, has been but little used. The cells are dry, but, as already mentioned, ill ventilated. Four of them have open fire-places, but there is not any provision for warming the others. I found the cells now in use dirty, and learnt that they had not been white-washed for about 2 years. Under good regulations, and with proper management, the prison would be tolerably secure, but at present it must necessarily be insecure, owing chiefly to the circumstance of the under-gaoler's wife, (who has access to some of the prison

Escapes. keys), being often in a state of intoxication. The last instance of escape was about two years and a half ago; the prisoner, however, was retaken immediately. At that time the man who held the office of upper gaoler (and who had been allowed to hold it for more than 20 years), was an habitual drunkard, and the prisoner escaped in consequence of his carelessness.

Prisoners. *Prisoners.*—There were two prisoners at the time of my visit, which is about one less than the average number. The total number of prisoners last year was about 70, namely, 30 criminals, (including poachers), 4 debtors, and about 40 vagrants. Rather more than half the vagrants were women; but of the others, only one was a woman. One of the prisoners I found in confinement was a swindler, who had committed several previous offences; the other was a poacher; yet both were in the same cell. The poacher looked clean, but the swindler dirty. There is no regulation about washing, the matter being left to the prisoners themselves. There is no provision also for having the prisoners' clothes washed, and I learnt that a prisoner sometimes goes more than a month without having a clean shirt. This was stated partly in explanation of the dirty condition of the bed-clothes.

Health. *Health.*—There have been several instances of prisoners being liberated on account of illness. One occurred about a year ago, when a prisoner who had been sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment was let out on bail at the expiration of 3 months, and he has remained ever since at large. The closeness of the rooms, and the want of employment, must tend to bring on illness.

Food. *Food.*—Every prisoner is allowed sixpenny worth of the best bread daily, which, even at the present high price of bread, is equivalent to 3 pounds weight; and which, when bread is cheap, is more than can be eaten. Sometimes a portion of this bread, and sometimes the whole supply, is bartered for other articles, including tea or coffee. Additional supplies of food from without are allowed both to criminals and debtors.

Clothing. *Clothing.*—None supplied.

Bedding.—Two pairs of blankets, a coverlet, and a mattress. As already mentioned, the bed-clothes were very dirty.

Discipline.—The discipline has been in a very lax state, especially till within the last two years; and even within that period, great improprieties have taken place, as will appear by the following report of part of my examination of the upper gaoler.

"*Peebles*, 24*th July*, 1837.

"Examination of Robert Taber, Keeper of the Gaol of Peebles.

Examination of Gaoler.

"Has been in his present office two years and about two months. There have been four debtors in prison whilst he has been keeper, their names were ————, ————, ————, and ————. Many of the chief inhabitants came to see ———— while he was in prison, and some of them used to drink whiskey-punch with him. No order for admission was required from these visitors. At that time declarant had not received instructions from the Magistrates not to admit people without an order from them. The under-gaoler's daughter used often to go to bring whiskey for ———— and his visitors. Does not believe that more than a bottle of whiskey was drunk in any one night. Does not remember ever seeing ———— or any of the visitors in a state of intoxication. Whiskey and other drink might be brought into the prison without his knowledge. Does not think it possible that two or three bottles of whiskey could be drunk in any one night, because he never knew more than four or five visitors at a time; and though he or his wife always let them out, he never saw one of them drunk, and never heard his wife mention any thing of the kind. The only case he ever knew or believes to have occurred of whiskey being supplied to a criminal prisoner, either by a debtor or by any other person was, when a tumbler of whiskey-punch was sent to a female prisoner named ————; and he allowed this because this prisoner was ill at the time, and he thought it would do her good. Has known visitors to remain with ———— till after eleven o'clock at night. Had not received any instructions from the Magistrates to send visitors away at any particular hour. There was not so much drinking when ———— was in prison as when ———— was there. Thinks that on an average about a gill and a half of whiskey was drunk by ———— and his visitors each day. Does not think that more than two gills of whiskey was drunk on any one day. Has seen ———— drunk in prison. ———— however was a weak man and easily affected by drink. Never informed the Magistrates that ———— had been drunk. Was new to the office and did not know what it was his duty to do. Had been told by the people living in the next house to the gaol, that in the late keeper's time there had been no restrictions upon the quantity of drink allowed to debtors."

No employment, &c.

The want of employment, separation, and cleanliness, has already been spoken of. It must be added that there is no provision for giving the prisoners any instruction.

Female Prisoners.

Female Prisoners.—It is stated that the upper gaoler's wife sometimes looks after these prisoners, but she has not the charge of them. No difference is made in the treatment of males and females.

Debtors.

Debtors.—There was no debtor at the time of my visit. All the debtors who have been in confinement during the last two years have maintained themselves. The debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from friends are freely allowed.

Visits.

Letters.

Smoking allowed.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between convicted and unconvicted prisoners. Till within the last two years visits to prisoners appear to have been allowed without any restriction, but an order from a Magistrate is now required. The present rules require that all letters should be inspected; but on examining one of the prisoners, I found that he had sent two letters out by the wife of his fellow-prisoner without these letters being inspected; and this probably is only a sample of what often happens. Smoking tobacco is allowed, and adds to the dirty and disorderly state of the prison.

Officers.

Officers.—Two; an upper and under gaoler. The state of the gaol and the irregularities that ave taken place, are discreditable to both officers, but part of the fault has been in the system under which they have acted. Moreover it must be borne in mind that the salary given is so small, that it is unreasonable to look for good qualifications. There is a surgeon who attends when sent for, but there is no chaplain.

Fees.

Fees.—Every debtor is expected to pay the gaoler fourpence a night for the time he is in prison.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, but it does not include vagrants; and several important particulars relating to the regular prisoners are not recorded. The account of expenses is kept chiefly by the town-clerk. The following is an abstract of the expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1836. The charge for aliment in it is about a quarter more than the average for the last five years:—

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Aliment	17	6	2
Furniture and bedding (about £16 of this may be considered as an extraordinary expense)	18	0	9½
Soap and candles	0	6	2
Repairs	5	18	2
Salaries:—			
Upper gaoler	10	10	0
Under gaoler (his whole salary is £24, but he is employed chiefly as a police-officer)	8	0	0
Surgeon (including charge for medicines)	1	0	6
	19	10	6
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors	£61	1	9½

Cost per Head.

Average number of prisoners during the year, 3, viz. 2½ criminals, and ½ debtor.
Average cost of each criminal prisoner during the year about 16*l.*—daily cost about 10*d.*

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Peebles.

General Observations.

Jurisdiction.

Improvements.

General Observations.—Judging by the remarks which offenders occasionally make to the sheriff and the police officers, it appears that many of them care little or nothing about being put into this prison, and, excepting the restraint upon their liberty, there cannot be much ground for aversion on their part, seeing that they pass their time in idleness, and have a better supply of food than many honest people.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

July 1837.

Before leaving Peebles I had a meeting with the magistrates and town-council; and recommended the following measures for the improvement of the prison:—

1st. The under-gaoler's family to leave the prison; and only one gaoler and his family henceforth to live in it.

2nd. The introduction of whiskey and other spirituous liquors to be entirely prohibited, as well to debtors as to other prisoners.

3rd. The whole of the prison to be thoroughly cleaned and lime-washed immediately after the under-gaoler's family has left. The bed-clothes also to be thoroughly washed, and the mattresses to be cleaned.

4th. Application to be made at the earliest possible time for the new story of the prison to be legalised, and for the whole of the prison to be legalised as a bridewell.

Prison Regulations. (To apply to all except debtors.)

1st. *Admittance.*—Every criminal prisoner on his admittance to be carefully examined, that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, and whether he has anything in his pockets unsuitable to a prison; as money, knives, &c. The prisoner then to wash himself from head to foot, and his hair to be cut, if necessary.

(This regulation need not extend to paupers put in prison for a single night.)

2nd. *Prison Hours.*—The prisoners to rise at 6 o'clock in summer, and at daybreak in winter; and to go to bed at nine in summer, and at such time as the visiting magistrate may from time to time direct in winter.

3rd. *Bedding.*—The bed-clothes to be removed from the cells during the day.

4th. *Separation.*—The prisoners to be kept separate as far as the accommodation will admit.

5th. *Work.*—So soon as the prison is legalised as a bridewell, all convicted prisoners to be set to work, and to be required to perform 10 hours' work every day; and unconvicted prisoners to be encouraged to work, by being allowed one-half of their earnings.

6th. *Female Superintendence.*—Female prisoners to be under the charge of the gaoler's wife.

7th. *Food.*—A cheap and plain dietary to be substituted for the present allowance of 6*d.* worth of fine bread. The dietary of the Paisley bridewell to be adopted (see Second Report on Scottish Prisons, page 112.)—with such modifications as local circumstances may suggest. No supplies of food from without to be allowed; and ale, beer, and fermented liquor of every kind, and all luxuries, such as tea, tobacco, &c., to be forbidden.

8th. *Cleanliness.*—Every prisoner to be required to wash himself thoroughly twice a day; and not to receive his breakfast in the morning or supper in the evening until he has obeyed this regulation. Every prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a week. The whole of the prison to be kept constantly clean, neat, and well ventilated.

9th. *Fires.*—No fires to be allowed except in cold weather.

10th. *Visits.*—No visitors to be admitted except on Tuesday between the hours of one and three; and then only by an order from the visiting magistrate.

11th. *Miscellaneous.*—The prison to be limewashed twice in the year.

12th. The outer gate to be kept constantly locked.

The under-gaoler and his family were removed soon after I left Peebles; and the prison was lime-washed and the blankets cleaned. After a lapse of about five months, too, all the foregoing regulations were adopted and printed; and since that time they have, I believe, been carried into full operation. I have received the following letter from the Town-Clerk of Peebles, in reply to one from myself, inquiring how matters were going on:—

"Town Clerk's Office, Peebles,

"Sir, "28th February, 1838.

"Your letter of the 19th current, in Provost Thorburn's absence, has been handed to me, and in answer beg to state that the rules and regulations lately adopted for the management of the gaol of this Burgh have been observed for some time past, and now regularly acted upon. At present there are only two male prisoners confined in the gaol, who receive the rations allowed by the regulations, and no complaints have been made in reference to it. So far as experience has tested, the new arrangements appear to work well, and the prison is now rendered a very different place from what it was formerly.

"Various articles of furniture have lately been added to the prison; in particular a few tin basins for the prisoners washing themselves and serving up their victuals. Each cell has been furnished with a copy of the Bible.

"The upper story of the gaol, with the court behind, and airing ground in front, have been legalized, and can now either be used for the confinement of criminals or civil debtors. With regard to the prison being sanctioned as a bridewell, this point was brought under the notice of the Court of Justiciary;

but the application *quoad* it was refused. The Edinburgh agent, in a letter on this subject, says, 'I had a meeting along with Mr. Forbes (advocate) with the Judges in the robing room previous to the meeting of the Court, and the reasons they gave for their decision were perfectly satisfactory: they stated that it was competent for the magistrates to use it for the purposes contemplated by them, provided the prisoners are sentenced to perform such hard labour as the state of the prison can afford; and such sentence is perfectly legal and consistent with the every-day practice of the Justiciary Court.'

"I may mention that the two prisoners before referred to are employed in the back court breaking road metal, for which they are to receive one half of the earnings when the period of their confinement expires. The keeping of the gaol is entirely confided to Taber; Cleghorn and his family having been removed soon after you were here.

"I remain, Sir, your very obedient Servant,
(Signed) "J. FOTHERINGHAM."

COUNTY OF PEEBLES.

Population about 11,000.

Prisons existing at present.—Two, viz.—the prison at Peebles, and a small lock-up house at Skirling.

Additional Prison wanted.—A small prison at Linton, a populous village 16 miles from Peebles, and not near any other place where there is a prison. The sheriff substitute is of opinion that many offences go unpunished at Linton for want of a prison.

Crime.

State of Crime in the Burgh and County of Peebles.—There is but little crime of any sort, and offences of a serious kind are very rare. The most common offences are petty thefts, assaults and poaching; the last being the only offence that is of very frequent occurrence.

Number and habits of the offenders.

It appears from the Report of the active police officer of this county, that there are only 6 resident inhabitants who are in the habit of stealing, and that these all live in the town of Peebles; 4 of them are males, and 2 are females, 1 of the latter being a public prostitute, (the only one in the county). The ages of these persons vary from 16 to about 40; three of them are in one family; and three of the males are carters. In addition to these there are, generally, many vagrants passing through the county, who commit many offences; and, lastly, there are many poachers. About a year ago a party of vagrants (consisting of 5 Irishmen), who had become half intoxicated, armed themselves with their reaping hooks, and set the police officers and the inhabitants generally at defiance. By the time the provost had sworn in a number of special constables these fellows had left the place. They were pursued, but were not captured. The offenders are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. It is observed that many of the young men who are poachers lost their fathers when they were young, and have not been well brought up.

Police.

State of the Police.—In this county, as in Selkirk, there is one active and efficient officer: his salary is 70*l.* a-year; and as sheriff's officer, he, probably, gets about 30*l.* more. Out of this income, however, he is required to keep a horse.

July, 1837.

LAUDER, BERWICKSHIRE.

Population about 1000; or, including a district 5 miles round, about 3500.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison of Lauder, though a burgh gaol, is seldom used otherwise than as a lock-up house; indeed it is not often occupied in any way. The prison consists of two rooms and a black-hole, and it forms the ground-floor of the town-house, an old building standing in the main street. The walls are thick, but as they consist of nothing but a poor kind of rubble, it is not difficult to make a hole through them if the prisoner have a knife or a bit of iron; and as the windows of the prison open upon the public street, he may readily be supplied by an associate on the outside; unless, indeed, he be confined in the black-hole, which, as its name implies, has no window. A lunatic boy who was put into the prison for a short time last April, at the request of his mother, succeeded in getting one of the hinges off the shutter, and with this, as a tool, made a hole through the wall and escaped.

The dimensions of the rooms are as follows:—

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical content. Ft.
Debtors' room (used also for criminals)	14½	9	8½	1100
Criminals' room	12½	12½	8½	1300
Black-hole	14½	12	8½	1200

State of the Prison.

No airing-yard. The building stands upon gravel, and appears to be quite dry. In the debtors' room there is an open fire-place, but there are no means of warming the criminals' room and black-hole. There are 2 windows in the debtors' room, but they were without glass when I saw them, owing, I was told, to the lunatic having broken it all. The window in the other room is never glazed, but there is a shutter by which the night air can, in part at least, be kept out. The debtors' room has a boarded floor, now partly out of repair; the criminals' room is flagged, and in the black-hole the ground serves as the floor. The ventilation of the two rooms appears to be sufficient, but not so that of the black-hole. I found the whole place clean.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and, as already mentioned, there seldom is one. During the whole of the year ending 30th of June there were only two prisoners, including the lunatic, and neither of these remained more than two or three days. The most frequent tenants are Irish labourers, who come over in the harvest-time, and who, having

Scotland, Reports on Separate Prisons. *Lauder.*

no other place of shelter, apply for leave to sleep in the gaol. The keeper said he had known as many as 70 in at once! The involuntary inmates also are chiefly Irish, who have gotten into some drunken brawl. There has not been any debtor in confinement for at least ten years.

Food.—The allowance is 6*d.* per day, paid in money, except to vagrants, who get three pennyworth of bread.

Food.

Bedding.

Bedding.—Regular prisoners have a mattrass and pillow, filled with chaff, and three single blankets. Vagrants are supplied with loose straw only.

Discipline.

Discipline.—None. Prisoners are sometimes supplied with whiskey through the windows, and that in sufficient quantities to produce intoxication. About a year and a half ago two prisoners thus excited by whiskey attacked the gaoler, but they were not able to master him. No punishment was inflicted on these prisoners.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between convicted and unconvicted prisoners. Visits are allowed on an order from one of the bailies. Smoking tobacco is against the rules, but it must be impossible to prevent it.

Officer.

Officer.—The keeper appears to be a steady intelligent man, and I was assured that he discharges his duties well. He was once in the army, and is now a stone-mason. His salary as gaoler is trifling, consisting only of a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.* on the admission of each prisoner, and h e odd sum of 7¾*d.* for every day such prisoner remains. He receives, however, a yearly salary of 7*l.* 10*s.* for acting as the town-officer and police-officer.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, but the ages of the prisoners and some other particulars are not entered. The book is tolerably neat. The account of expenses is kept by the town-clerk. There were no disbursements, however, in the year just ended, for there was only one prisoner, and he maintained himself; and, owing to some error, the gaoler's fee was not paid.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Lauder.—Very little crime, and less apparently than there was 20 or 30 years ago. The most common offences are drunken brawls committed by strangers. There has been only one person belonging to the town in prison for two years. It is stated, indeed, that there is not a single inhabitant who is given to stealing, or who is in the practice of disturbing the peace.

July, 1837.

GREENLAW, BERWICKSHIRE.

Greenlaw.

Site, construction &c.

The prison at Greenlaw is the county gaol of Berwick. It was built about thirteen years ago, and cost about 6000*l.* It stands at the outside of the town, on the slope of a hill. The site appears to be unobjectionable as regards health, &c.; but Greenlaw does not seem to be the best place in the county for the prison and other public buildings, as the population of this town is exceedingly small (about 400), and as most of the prisoners have to be brought from other places. Dunse is a much more important town than Greenlaw, and is the residence of the sheriff-substitute and other public officers; and both trouble and expense would have been saved by considering Dunse the county town, and placing the prison in its immediate neighbourhood. The prison of Greenlaw is built entirely of stone and in a substantial manner, but it was evidently not constructed with a view to the employment of the prisoners and to their separation during the day; and there would now be some difficulty in attaining these objects, even in a moderate degree, owing partly to the smallness of the cells and the facility of communication between them. The difficulty, too, of procuring profitable employment for prisoners at an inland agricultural village like Greenlaw is considerable. The prison is not very secure at present, owing to the walls round the airing-yards being rather low and not well constructed. There has been but one instance of escape, however, which happened about a year and a half ago.

Difficulty in getting employment.

There are 3 day-rooms, 18 cells, and 4 airing-yards: the dimensions are as follow:—

	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
Day Rooms.				
3	15¾	14½	10	2300
Cells.				
6	10¼	7	9½	680
1	9	7½	9	600
5	9	7	9	570
5	9	7	8¼	520
1	9	7½	8¼	560
18				
Airing Yards.				
2	25	20		
1	25	5		
1	33	28		

State of the prison.

The whole of the prison was very clean, and the surgeon told me that he always found it so. The place is dry also. In the day-rooms there are open fires, and some of the cells are warmed by a hot-air apparatus; but there is no provision for warming the other cells. As the floors and almost every other part of the building are made of stone, there is very little danger of fire. The ventilation appears to be tolerably good.

Prisoners.—There were nine at the time of my visit, which is slightly above the average number. The total number of prisoners last year was 42; viz., 34 criminals (33 males and 1 female) and 8 debtors (7 males and 1 female). Most of the prisoners were clean; but two or three looked dirty, which arose, in part, from the dirty clothes which they brought in with them, and which they still wore. The prisoners are expected to wash themselves once a-day, and I believe they do so in fact. One prisoner was in irons: he was awaiting his trial, on a charge of being accessory to a murder; and the irons had been put upon him as an additional security. Prisoners.

Health.—Generally good. It is said that such of the prisoners as are vagrants for the most part improve in health during their confinement here. The only death that has taken place in the gaol since it was built, was that of a boy who hanged himself. This happened six or seven years ago. The surgeon could not specify any disease as at all common in the prison; and I was assured that no epidemic had ever appeared. It should be remarked, however, that a few debtors have, from time to time, been liberated on account of illness; and that no sick-list is kept. The surgeon is of opinion that there is nothing in the gaol, or in the regulations in use, which tends to bring on illness. Health.

Food.—The supply of food is too abundant and of too good a quality, when compared with that obtained by the honest poor in the neighbourhood. The prisoners receive sixpence per day each in money, and the gaoler purchases whatever they choose to order, excepting ardent spirits. Most of the bread eaten by the labouring classes round about is made of barley and pease, but the prisoners get good wheaten bread. Coffee, too, is a luxury which, though seldom enjoyed by the honest poor man, is within the reach of the criminal. In addition to the allowance of sixpence per day the prisoners are permitted to receive additional supplies of food from their friends outside the gaol.—Debtors generally receive from eight-pence to a shilling a-day. Food.

Clothing.—None is supplied except in cases of destitution. Clothing.

Bedding.—A straw mattress and pillow, three single blankets, and a rug. In winter two double blankets are given instead of three single ones. All the bedding was clean. Bedding.

Discipline.—Little can be said on this head. The prisoners all pass their time in idleness, and most of them in the corrupting society of their fellows. A few are generally in solitary confinement; but, owing to the construction of the building, it is seldom possible to prevent even these from conversing with one another. There is no provision for instructing the prisoners. They are, however, supplied with Bibles and religious tracts. The conduct of the prisoners is reported to be generally good, though they sometimes quarrel with one another. One of the prisoners was whistling when I went in, but this is not looked upon as an offence. Punishment is very seldom inflicted; corporal punishment never. Discipline.

Female prisoners.—These are not superintended by a female officer, and no difference of any kind is made between them and male prisoners. Female prisoners.

Debtors.—There was not any debtor at the time of my visit, and the average for the whole of last year was only ½. Debtors are supplied with bedding. Visits are allowed during four hours each day; but the visitors are searched, to see whether they are attempting to smuggle whiskey into the gaol; and supplies of whiskey have, in this way, been often detected. Sometimes a visitor has tried to introduce whiskey by mixing it with ale, which he is allowed to bring in. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—Visits to untried prisoners are allowed without any order; but the visitor is not permitted to go beyond the iron palisades at the end of the airing-yard. Visits to convicted prisoners are not allowed, except by an order from a justice of the peace; but with this order any one may go into the prisoners' day-room. No other difference is made between the untried and convicted. Letters are allowed to pass without inspection. Smoking is permitted in the airing-yards. There is no provision for sending prisoners back to their parishes after liberation. Visits. Letters. Smoking.

Officers.—The only regular officer is the keeper, who is, however, allowed the occasional assistance of another man. The keeper resides on the spot. He appears to be an intelligent and well-conducted man, and he was spoken highly of by all to whom I applied for their opinion respecting him. I found everything neat and clean, except some of the prisoners themselves, and the want of cleanliness in them did not rest with the keeper, as already explained. I received no complaints of the keeper from the prisoners, and I have no doubt that his treatment of them is kind. The keeper's salary is 50*l.* per year, together with house-room and coals. There is a surgeon who attends when sent for. There is no chaplain, but the parish clergyman kindly visits the place every Sunday to pray with the prisoners. Officers.

Fees.—The only fee demanded or allowed is one of half-a-crown on the admission of a debtor. This is paid by the creditor. Fees.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, an account of the charges for aliment, and an account of sundry expenses. The register of imprisonments does not contain any descriptions of the persons of the prisoners, and does not show when a prisoner has been in the gaol before; but the book is neatly kept, as are the other accounts. The account of disbursements is kept by the collector of cess for the county, and is a model of precision and beautiful penmanship. Accounts.

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Reports on Separate Prisons.

Greenlaw.

Expenditure.

The following is an abstract of the expenditure for the year ending the 31st of August, 1836. The items, exclusive of the charge for a warm-air stove, are about of average amount:—

			£.	s.	d.
Money Allowance for Food			60	19	0
Clothing			1	4	7
Furniture and Bedding			2	17	9½
Fuel			16	3	9
Washing, about			2	0	0
Repairs			6	16	9
Additions (warm-air Stove and Pipes)			42	0	0
Sundries			6	5	9
Salaries—Keeper	50 0 0				
Surgeon (including charge for Medicine)	7 0 0				
Assistant	1 12 5				
		58	12	5	
Total, exclusive of the Aliment of Debtors		£197	0	0½	

Average number of criminal Prisoners during the year—6½.

Cost per head.

Average cost of each criminal Prisoner during the year—about 22*l.* Average daily cost—about 1*s.* 2*d.*

General observation.

General Observation.—Comparatively little good can be effected by confinement in this prison. Re-commitments are frequent.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of a committee appointed from year to year, at the meetings of the Justices of the Peace and the Commissioners of Supply.

July, 1837.

DUNSE, BERWICKSHIRE.

Dunse.

Lock-up house only.

The only prison at this place is a small lock-up house under the Town-hall. Prisoners who are confined otherwise than for examination are sent to Greenlaw. The distance is eight miles, and the average cost of conveyance is about 13*s.* per head.

State of the prison.

The lock-up house at Dunse consists of a single room, about 15 feet long, 8 feet broad, and 8 feet high; built of stone and arched over. It is below the ground, and, in certain states of the weather, is evidently damp.

Insecurity.

At these times, however, a room at the top of the Town-hall is occasionally used. This latter room is dry, but is not secure; and, five or six years ago, two prisoners (in confinement for a petty offence) made their escape from it. Even as respects prisoners in the lower room, it is found necessary to have a guard constantly on watch when any one is in confinement on a serious charge, as the small windows at the top of the room open upon the public street, and are level with the ground. Sometimes, indeed, it is thought requisite to have two guards, one on the outside and one in the inside. The facility of communication with the street affords the means, of course, of getting whiskey into the prison.—I found the room moderately clean. There is no fire-place, however, or other means of warming it, and

Bedding.

the windows are unglazed. For bedding the prisoners are supplied with loose straw, and a pair of blankets. There were formerly two pairs of blankets, but one of the pairs, after a service of eighteen years, has been released from further duty, and its place has not yet been

Food.

supplied. The gaoler is allowed 6*d.* a-day per head for feeding the prisoners; and the Pro-

Prisoners.

curator Fiscal, who takes charge of the management of this place to some extent, told me that he never received any complaint from the prisoners about the food. There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit; and I was informed that the room is more frequently empty than tenanted. When there are a male and female prisoner at the same time, the female is put in the upper room, unless she be the wife of the male prisoner.

Gaoler.

The gaoler has held his office for eighteen years, and is now more than eighty years old. He is a hale and respectable-looking man, but must, I should fear, be now too feeble for his situation. His salary is 10*l.* a-year.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Dunse.—There are about a dozen families who are in the habit of committing offences, chiefly of a petty kind. About half of these families are Irish, and these give a good deal of trouble, indirectly, as well as directly, by harbouring Irish vagrants whose character is as bad as their own.

July, 1837.

AYTON, BERWICKSHIRE.

Population 200 or 300.

Ayton.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison at Ayton is, properly, a mere lock-up house, for the reception of offenders on their road to a regular gaol; it not having been legalized as a place of confinement for prisoners undergoing punishment, or indeed legalized in any way. The place appears, however, to be sometimes used as a regular prison for very short periods of imprisonment. It was built about 20 years ago, and stands in the main street of the village. It is neither well constructed nor well situated. The walls are made of rubble-stone, and in some places are not more than a foot thick; and it would not, therefore, be difficult to make a hole through them; while the ready communication

Escapes.

with the street offers facilities for obtaining tools for the purpose. Two prisoners have escaped

during the last 12 months, but neither of them in the way referred to. One succeeded in removing a stone on one side the iron bars of the window, and got through the opening; the other, a boy, squeezed his body between the bars themselves. Most of those confined are put in for petty offences, otherwise escapes would probably be more frequent.

Ayton.

There are 2 rooms, and they are each about 15 feet long, 8 feet broad, and 8 feet high. Each has an unglazed window. I was told that the windows were glazed at one time, and that there had been a shutter to each, but that both glass and shutters had been broken long since. There is a chimney in each room, but no grate; and the gaoler said that whenever an attempt had been made to light a fire the room had filled with smoke. This circumstance, however, does not appear to have prevented the prisoners from setting fire occasionally to the straw which lies in a slovenly manner scattered over the floor. In winter the rooms must be very cold; they are, however, dry.

State of the prison.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit, and I was told that there are not generally more than about 20 prisoners during the year. In addition to these, however, there are a good many vagrants, who are allowed to sleep in the place for want of other shelter. But the number of inmates of all kinds, is now much less than when the place was first erected.

Number of prisoners.

Prisoners who remain through the day are fed by the gaoler, who is allowed 8*d.* per head each day. The money so paid last year amounted to 9*s.* The bedding consists of loose straw only.

Food.

Bedding.

Over the rooms used as a prison (which are upon the ground floor) are two rooms for the gaoler, so that this little prison possesses one advantage over most others of the same size, that, namely, of a resident keeper.

Resident keeper.

The prison was built at the expense of the county, and is under the jurisdiction of the Justices of the Peace. It should be remarked that the prison appears to be more required for the neighbourhood of Ayton than for Ayton itself.

Jurisdiction.

July, 1837.

COCKBURNSPATH, BERWICKSHIRE.

Cockburnspath.

The place used as a lock-up house at Cockburnspath is a wretched damp hovel put up at one end of the church, and standing in the churchyard. It is about 15½ feet long, 13 feet broad, and about 12 feet high. It is fortunately insecure, so that any one who is not very feeble may soon force his way out. I found the place as dirty as it is damp; there is a fire-place, but the window is unglazed.

A wretched lock-up house.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit, and I believe the place is but seldom used. I could not, however, obtain much information on this point, owing to the absence of the constable who has the care of it. The last instance of imprisonment remembered by the boy at the inn, who procured the key for me, was the case of a woman, two or three months ago, who remained through the night. If she left without having a fit of rheumatism or an attack of illness of some kind, she had cause for congratulation.

Prisoners.

Jurisdiction.—This prison is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates.

Jurisdiction.

January, 1838.

COLDSTREAM, BERWICKSHIRE.

Population nearly 2000.

Coldstream.

The prison at Coldstream is used us a lock-up house merely, but it is one of the best prisons of its size that I have seen in Scotland, though this, to be sure, can be said without implying much praise. It was built about 20 years ago, and is in a good situation, standing back from the street, and so screened as to be out of public view. The site appears to be quite dry. The building is in a yard or garden, surrounded by a wall; this wall, however, is not high, and the gate is weak, so that any one determined to get to the prison would not have much difficulty unless he was observed. There are two small rooms for prisoners, and two rooms for the keeper and his family; those for the prisoners being on the ground floor, and those for the keeper being above them. The prisoners' rooms are each 12 feet long, 8 feet broad, and 8 feet high, and contain about 750 cubic feet. They are dry, and each of them has an open fire-place, but in neither of them is the window glazed. I found both of the rooms tolerably clean; one quite so. There does not appear to have been any escape from this prison since it was built, and I have no doubt that it is tolerably secure.

Lock-up house only.

Site, construction, &c.

There was a person in confinement at the time of my visit, but he was not under any criminal charge. He was believed to be in a state of temporary derangement, and had been received into the prison at the request of his friends; he looked clean, and appeared to be comfortable.

Prisoner.

I was told that on an average 40 or 50 persons are admitted during the year, exclusive of people put in for the night only, in a state of intoxication. Of these latter there are a good many, (chiefly Irish vagrants, I was informed). When a prisoner remains during the whole day, he is fed by the keeper, who (according to his own report) gives the prisoner the same kind of food that he and his family happen to be eating, which generally consists of oatmeal porridge, broth (sometimes with meat in it), and barley bread. The baron-bailie, who has the superintendence of the prison, told me that he never heard any complaint about the food, which he should have done had there been cause. The gaoler charges the county about 7*d.* per day for each prisoner's food, and this charge generally amounts to about 15*s.* during the year. For bedding, the prisoners are allowed two double blankets and some loose straw, except drunken vagrants, who get nothing beyond the loose straw. These latter, too, have no bedstead; they had one, but they broke it; indeed I was told that they had at different times broken three bedsteads.

Average during the year.

Food.

Bedding.

SCOTLAND.

Report on Separate Prisons.

Coldstream.

Degree of separation.

Gaoler.

Jurisdiction.

Crime, &c.

Habits and number of the offenders.

I was assured that males and females are always kept apart, except in cases of man and wife. When the prison is crowded, a third room (a very small one) is used; this room is similar to the others, except that it has no fire-place.

The keeper is a shoemaker, and he attends to the prisoners in return for the house-room which is given him. He has held his office for 13 years, and appears to perform his duties well.

The prison was built by the county, but as it is on the land of the superior of the burgh, it must be considered under his jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Coldstream.—There appears to be very little crime here of a serious kind, although there is a considerable number of petty offences; the latter owing, to some extent, to the town being just on the border, and upon one of the thoroughfares between England and Scotland. The chief offences are petty thefts, assaults, and poaching. It is stated that there has been a considerable decrease in crime of late years, which is attributed in part to the suppression of smuggling.

It appears that most of the offenders are from 16 to 30 years of age, and that as a class they are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. Many of their parents are known to be of loose character. It is stated that there are altogether 8 or 10 persons of confirmed bad character in Coldstream, and that several of these belong to one of two families. There are from 20 to 30 other persons also who occasionally commit petty thefts and other offences. It is reported that there is not a single poacher who is not in the habit of stealing also. Many of the petty thefts are committed by carters when driving to and from the coal-pits in Northumberland. The vagrants also, of course, commit many offences.

August, 1837.

BERWICKSHIRE.

Population about 34,000.

Berwickshire.

Prisons.

Prisons existing at present.—Seven; viz., one each at Greenlaw, Lauder, Dunse, Cockburnspath, Ayton, Coldstream, and Earlstown. All, excepting those at Greenlaw and Lauder, are lock-up houses merely.—No additional prisons appear to be wanted, but those at Dunse, Lauder, Cockburnspath, and Earlstown, should be replaced by better prisons; and considerable alterations at least are necessary in the prison at Ayton.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime in Berwickshire.—There does not appear to be a great deal of crime in this county. Of the offences that are committed, the most common are assaults and thefts, including thefts from dwelling-houses unaccompanied with violence. On an average also, there is about one case of rape each year. It is stated that there has been a great increase in the number of petty thefts and assaults during the last twenty years, but that this has been chiefly on the part of strangers passing through the county, whose number appears to have been much greater lately than it was a few years ago.

Habits of the offenders.

The offenders are distinguished for habits of drunkenness, and many appear to have been much neglected in their education. Of those who are committed to the county gaol, not more than about one half are found to be able to read easily. Not many more than one half of the prisoners also are found to belong to the county.

Police.

State of the Police.—Apparently tolerably good. The county is divided into 17 districts, and there is at least one paid constable in each, although his salary in no instance exceeds 10*l.* a-year, and is often much less. There is a general superintendent who receives 70*l.* a-year, and who is furnished with a horse, but he has to maintain the horse out of his salary.

August, 1837.

MELROSE, ROXBURGHSHIRE.

Population about 700; or, including a district two miles round, about 1800.

Melrose.

Site, construction, &c.

Prisoners.

Bedding.

The prison of Melrose is the private property of the Duke of Buccleuch (the Superior of the burgh), and is used as a lock-up house only. It consists of a single stone vaulted cell on the ground floor of the town court-house, which stands on one side of a public street, and was built about 15 years ago. The cell is about 15 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 8 feet high. It is secure, dry, and tolerably well ventilated; the window however is unglazed, and looks upon the street. There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit, and I was informed that the place is not used as a prison more than two or three times a-year, and then chiefly for prisoners who do not belong to Melrose, but who are on their road to Jedburgh. The district constable, however, told me that more use would be made of the lock-up house if it were kept in a better state. At present it is half filled with coal and fire-wood. The bedding supplied to any prisoner who remains through the night consists, I was told, of a carpet and some loose straw.

July, 1837.

KELSO, ROXBURGHSHIRE.

Population about 4000.

Kelso

Site, construction, &c.

The prison of Kelso is little more than a lock-up house, and its use is confined to the burgh, county prisoners not being admitted. It was built about 25 years ago, and stands at

the outskirts of the town, and on the side of the road. There are two rooms, each 13 feet long, 8 feet broad, and 8 feet high. They are dry but ill ventilated, and must be cold in winter, as the windows are without glass, all the panes having been broken, I was told, by persons in confinement. There are open grates, and it was stated that the prisoners are sometimes allowed fire. The place appears to be moderately secure; no escape has taken place during the time that the present keeper has been in office, which is about six years.

Kelso.

There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, though several beggars who had been allowed to sleep in the place had just been dismissed. I subsequently learnt from the district constable, that a few nights after my visit, there were 11 prisoners at one time, and that men and women, on that occasion, were confined in the same room; and that this mixture of the sexes is a common occurrence. Prisoners are generally released or sent to Jedburgh after the first night, but they sometimes remain longer. A female, in default of payment of a fine which had been imposed, was some time ago kept in this prison for a month.

Prisoners.

Those who are confined for very short periods generally receive threepennyworth of bread each day, but such as are detained for several days are fed with porridge, broth, &c., though not according to any stated allowance. The bedding consists of loose straw and two double blankets.

Food.

Bedding.

I could not judge of the qualifications of the gaoler, as he was not at home. I was informed that the only remuneration allowed him is the use of the small house which is connected with the prison.

Gaoler.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the Burgh Magistrates.

Jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Kelso.—There is a good deal of petty crime, consisting chiefly of petty thefts and assaults. There are also occasional instances of house-breaking, but these are unaccompanied with personal violence. Many of the petty thefts, especially robberies of hen-roosts and gardens, escape detection.

Crime, &c.

It is reported that there are from 25 to 30 young thieves in Kelso (7 of whom belong to 2 families), and that there are also 7 or 8 carters who frequently steal. About one-third of the thieves are females, and these are common prostitutes also. There are 12 or 14 men in the town who commit assaults, &c., but who do not steal; and lastly, there are on an average 3 or 4 vagrants of bad character. The resident thieves are mostly from 10 to 16 years old; and those who commit assaults are from 15 to 20. The assaults are generally the result of drunkenness, but the same cannot be said of the thefts, except those committed by the carters, which frequently consist of stolen provender for their horses to make up for what ought to have been purchased with money wasted in drinking. Most of the thieves are very ignorant and ill-educated, and such as live at Kelso have most of them at least one parent who is addicted to drunkenness. It is stated that at least one half of the offences are committed by persons who do not belong to the town.

Habits, &c., of the offenders.

August, 1837.

JEDBURGH, ROXBURGHSHIRE.

(Second Report.)

Jedburgh.

Very little change has been made in the prison of Jedburgh since my last visit. I found the place clean this time (the illness of the keeper accounted for the want of cleanliness last time), and a slight alteration had been made to render the separation of the males and females more complete; but I did not observe any other improvement. The same mixture of prisoners, and the same want of useful employment and want of instruction, exist as formerly. There is also the same necessity for vigilant inspection and for the occasional use of fetters, to prevent escapes.

Little improvement.

August, 1837.

HAWICK, ROXBURGHSHIRE.

Population about 6000.

Hawick.

The prison of Hawick is a wretched place, consisting of a single room 13½ feet long, 12½ feet broad, and 7 feet high. It stands in one of the streets, and on the ground floor, so that communication can always be kept up with persons in confinement. The place is quite insecure; but instances of escape are not common, because all persons under serious charges are immediately sent to Jedburgh. The prison is moderately dry, but is ill-ventilated, and I found it in a filthy condition. There is a chimney, but no grate. There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit, and I was told that on an average there are not more than 10 or 12 regular prisoners during the year, and that these seldom remain for more than a night or two, though they sometimes stay as long as a week. In addition to these prisoners there are, during the year, about 60 or 70 drunken people, confined for a single night. As there is only one room, males and females must sometimes be kept together, and such I learnt is in fact the case. This of course must give rise to great profligacy.

Site, construction, &c.

State of the Prison.

Prisoners.

Males and females in same room.

Regular prisoners have three meals per day, consisting of bread, broth, beer, or tea. Vagrants get three penny rolls each. Loose straw is given for bedding, with the occasional addition of blankets. The bedstead was broken, and the blankets, I was told, are often torn.

Food,

Bedding.

The chief offences committed by the prisoners when in confinement are procuring supplies of whiskey, getting drunk, setting fire to the straw, and swearing at people in the street. The offenders are sometimes punished by being detained longer and sometimes by being put in the stocks; it is probable, however, that they generally go unpunished.

Prison offences.

SCOTLAND.

Report on Separate Prisons.

The prison is under the charge of two burgh officers. Their only remuneration as gaolers is a fee of a shilling from the burgh on each admission.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of Hawick.

Hawick.

Gaolers.

Jurisdiction.

Crime, &c.

Police.

State of Crime at Hawick.—There is a good deal of petty crime, the offences consisting chiefly of petty thefts, cases of embezzlement, and assaults. At the late election several persons were treated in a barbarous manner, some being stripped naked and driven into the stream. Most of the habitual offenders are from 14 to 30 years of age, and, as a class, they are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. The offences are chiefly committed by residents, but many are by strangers.

The police is in a very inefficient state, and the magistrates have no summary power of trial, the town not having adopted the provisions of the general police act.

August, 1837.

NEW CASTLETON, ROXBURGHSHIRE.

Population about 1000.

New Castleton.

Lock-up house only.

State of the Prison.

Prisoners.

The prison of New Castleton is used only as a lock-up house. It was built within the last 20 years, but it is not on a very good construction. It stands on one side of an open area, in the middle of the town. The place appears to be tolerably secure, although there is nothing to prevent communication from without. I did not hear of any instance of escape. There are two cells, and they are each 13 feet long, 7 feet broad, and 8 feet high. The cells are moderately dry and tolerably ventilated, but they must be sometimes very cold (there are no means of warming them), and I found them very dirty.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit. As the constable who has the care of the place was from home, I could not learn how frequently the prison is used, nor could I form any opinion of the officer's qualifications as gaoler, except from the dirt which he had allowed to accumulate. The bedding consists of a straw mattress and some blankets.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Castleton.—There does not appear to be much crime here, though there is probably more than there would be if there were a magistrate in the neighbourhood. I was informed that such of the neighbouring gentry as have been put in the commission had declined qualifying, in consequence of a justice of the peace having been subjected to a considerable pecuniary loss in consequence of making some legal error. Petty thefts and breaches of the peace are the most common offences; the thefts being committed to a considerable extent on the neighbouring farmers, by tinkers. The number of tinkers, however, and of vagrants generally, has been much reduced since an efficient constable was placed in this district. Market fights too have become less common.

August, 1837.

ROXBURGHSHIRE.

Population about 45,000.

Roxburghshire.

Existing prisons.

New prisons wanted.

Prisons existing at present.—6, viz., the burgh and county prison and a small lock-up room at Jedburgh, and a lock-up house at Kelso, Hawick, Melrose, and New Castleton.

No additional prisons are required, but new ones (and those to be for general use) are wanted at Kelso and Hawick. At present if a county prisoner is apprehended at either of these places, he cannot be put into the burgh lock-up house, but must be either sent on immediately to Jedburgh, or, if it be night-time, or the prisoner be wanted for examination on the spot, he must be kept at a public-house. In consequence, too, of the want of a good small prison at Kelso and Hawick, and of a power of trying summarily for petty offences at these and other places in the county, an unnecessary expense (varying generally from 10*s.* to 15*s.* per head) is incurred in sending offenders to Jedburgh.

Crime, &c.

Habits, &c., of the offenders,

Police.

State of Crime in Roxburghshire.—There appears to be a good deal of crime in this county, in proportion to the population. The offences consist chiefly of thefts (particularly of sheep-stealing and embezzlement) and assaults. The following is an enumeration of the more serious offences committed during the last 10 years, as given by the procurator fiscal from memory:—1 highway robbery, 2 rapes, 2 cases of the carnal abuse of children, several cases of sodomy, 1 case of house-breaking accompanied with personal violence, about 6 cases of the exposure of infants, several assaults to the danger of life, and 1 embezzlement to the extent of 500*l.*

The offenders, as a class, are said to be of drunken habits, and to be much below others in the same rank of life in education and intelligence. Many of the younger offenders have learnt no honest means of getting a livelihood, and, as might be expected, their parents are themselves often either positively bad, or, at least, very negligent of their children. The offences are chiefly committed by resident inhabitants: many, however, are by strangers.

The police of Roxburghshire has been lately organized and greatly improved, but the procurator fiscal is of opinion that about one-third part even of the offences which are of sufficient importance to be referred to the sheriff are still committed either without any clue being obtained to the parties concerned, or without sufficient evidence being collected to warrant a prosecution.

August, 1837.

LANGHOLM, DUMFRIESSHIRE.

Population about 2400.

Langholm is a burgh of barony; and the prison is the private property of the Duke of Buccleuch, the superior of the burgh. The prison forms part of the town-house, which was built about 24 years ago, and which stands at one end of the market-place. The site is tolerably good, but the prison is not well constructed. It is seldom used, however, otherwise than as a lock-up house. There are three cells, and their dimensions are as follows:—

Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height Ft.	Cubical content. Ft.
2	12	9	9	950
1	7	6	12	500

The two first cells are somewhat below the level of the ground, and are rather damp; the other cell is dry, but it is quite dark, and is very ill ventilated. There are no means of warming the cells, and in winter the two first must be very cold. I found the dark cell dirty, but the light cells were clean. The prison cannot be regarded as secure, except for prisoners for trifling offences. Communication can go on with the street, and some time ago a man, who had been arrested on a serious charge, got a supply of files through the window, which is unglazed. He did not, however, effect his escape. State of the Prison. Insecurity.

There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that there are not on an average more than 15 or 20 in the course of a year, and that very few remain more than a single night. Regular prisoners are fed with porridge and milk; but not according to any stated allowance. Vagrants are supplied with bread and water only. A quantity of loose straw is the only provision for bedding, except in one of the cells, where there are two or three old blankets. Males are kept separate from females, except when the prisoners call themselves man and wife. Prisoners. Food. Bedding. Classification.

The man who has the care of this lock-up house does not live on the spot; and I did not see him, but I was told that he is a tolerably good officer. Gaoler.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of a baron-bailie appointed by the Duke of Buccleuch. Jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Langholm.—There is a good deal of petty crime here, consisting chiefly of assaults and petty thefts: particularly robbing gardens, stealing wood from the plantations, and cutting other people's grass; the two latter offences, however, appear to be scarcely regarded as crimes. There is also a good deal of prostitution. Most of the offences escape detection. Market fights which used to be common now seldom occur; but the other offences appear to be about as numerous as formerly. Crime, &c.

The habitual offenders are chiefly between 16 and 25 years old, and are distinguished for habits of intemperance. There are 6 or 7 persons living at Langholm who are given to stealing; and 3 or 4 people who frequently disturb the peace, but who do not steal. There are also generally 3 or 4 vagrants in the town, and it is thought that these latter commit about one-third of the offences. Those who take wood and grass only are not included in the foregoing enumeration. Habits, &c. of the Offenders.

August, 1837.

ANNAN, DUMFRIESSHIRE.

Population about 4000.

This is a burgh prison; but, except that debtors are received, it is used as little more than a lock-up house. The building is old, and on a bad construction; it stands in the middle of the town, and is so situated as to command a view of the principal street in its whole length. There are 5 rooms, 1 of which, however, is generally used as a meal-house. The dimensions are as follows:— Site, Construction, &c.

Rooms.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
1	13	$9\frac{1}{2}$	13	1500
1	13	$10\frac{1}{2}$	13	1750
1	$13\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{3}{4}$	$8\frac{3}{4}$	1000
1	12	9	8	850
1	$12\frac{1}{2}$	$11\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{1}{2}$	1200
5				

There is no airing-yard. The prison is tolerably dry, but is ill ventilated. Two of the rooms are warmed by open fires, but there is no provision for warming the others. One of the two rooms with open fires has a boarded floor, and there is no security against the building catching fire. I found the prison tolerably clean, but in one part there was an offensive smell. The last escape was about 15 years ago: the prisoner who escaped was a debtor, and the town had to pay 300*l.* or 400*l.* on his account. There were 2 prisoners at the time of my visit, which is about the present average, though formerly the average was much higher. Both of the prisoners were debtors; and it appears that, taking length of confinement into consideration, the prisoners consist chiefly of debtors. The total number of prisoners last year was 18, viz., 6 criminals (males), and 12 debtors (11 males and 1 female). These are exclusive of about 50 or 60 drunken people (of whom about 20 were females) confined for a single night. State of the Prison. Escape of a Debtor. Prisoners.

Health.—The health of the prisoners appears to be generally tolerably good, but as there is no surgeon connected with the prison I could not obtain much trustworthy information. No death has occurred for many years. Health.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Annan.

Food. Bedding. Discipline. Debtors. Visits, &c. Officer. Fees. Accounts. Expenditure. Jurisdiction. Crime, &c. Offenders.

Food.—The allowance for food is paid to all the prisoners in money. Debtors generally get 1*s.* per day, and other prisoners from 4*d.* to 6*d.*

Bedding.—Loose straw only.

Discipline.—The prisoners are mixed together (except that males and females are kept apart by night), and they have no kind of employment. They can, moreover, see everything that goes on in the street, and can have little difficulty in obtaining supplies of whisky, &c. There is no chaplain; and it was stated that the prison is never visited by a clergyman.

Debtors.—They furnish their own bedding and clothing. Visits and supplies of food from without are freely allowed.

Miscellaneous.—Visits and letters are allowed to the prisoners generally. Smoking is also permitted.

Officer.—The gaoler appears to be an active, intelligent man, and well qualified for the situation; he does not, however, reside on the spot, and has other occupations besides the care of the gaol.

Fees.—The gaoler receives a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.* from the imprisoning creditor on the admission of a debtor.

Accounts.—The gaoler keep a register of debtors, but none of criminals; and the register he does keep is not well managed. The account of expenses is kept by the town-treasurer. The following shows the expenditure for the year 1836:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Money allowance to criminal prisoners, about	0	3	0
Straw, about	0	10	0
Repairs	0	7	0
Sundries	0	4	6
Keeper's salary	15	0	0
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors	£16	4	6

Average number of prisoners during the year 2¾; namely, 2½ debtors and ¼ criminal.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

State of Crime, &c., at Annan.—There appears to be very little crime of a serious kind here, but a good many petty thefts, drunken brawls, and assaults, and a good deal of wanton mischief. Most of the offences escape detection, owing to the want of a good police, and of a proper prison, and to the want also of a cheap and summary means of trial, which the magistrates do not possess, as the inhabitants refused to adopt the provisions of the General Police Act.

In consequence of the lax administration of criminal justice at Annan, I could learn but little about the number and character of the offenders. It appears, however, that the offenders are, as a class, distinguished for habits of drunkenness and for the want of education. A backwardness in giving evidence in criminal trials is complained of.

August, 1837.

LOCKERBIE, DUMFRIESSHIRE.

Population about 1500.

Lockerbie.

Lock-up House only. State of the Prison. Prisoners. Gaoler. Jurisdiction. Crime, &c. Police.

The prison of this town is a mere lock-up house. It was formed about 6 years ago out of an old ruin, and stands on some sloping ground on one side of a lane leading from the main street. There are 2 rooms, each 13 feet long, 8 feet broad, and about 14 feet high. They open into each other, a circumstance which of itself bespeaks a very imperfect construction. The rooms are dry and moderately ventilated, but I found them in rather a slovenly state. There is no provision for warming. There was an escape about a year ago; but upon the whole the place appears to be moderately secure.

There was no prisoner at the time of my visit. I was told that the average number of prisoners in a year is about 30; and that no one remains more than a single night. The bedding consists of 2 rugs and some loose straw. Males are kept separate from females.

I did not see the man who has the care of the prison, as he was from home. He does not reside on the spot. No register of imprisonments is kept.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates.

State of Crime at Lockerbie.—There appear to be very few serious offences, but there is a good deal of robbing gardens, breaking down fences for fire-wood, &c., and many drunken brawls. Most of these offences escape detection. It is stated that there is less fighting and rioting than formerly; but there does not appear to be much change in other respects. There are 3 persons in the town (1 man and 2 women) who are of confirmed bad character, and who have often been convicted of offences; there also many boys who rob gardens, &c.

State of the Police, &c.—There is no sufficient police and no resident magistrate; and I was assured that if a riot were to take place there would be no means of quelling it.

August, 1837.

LOCHMABEN, DUMFRIESSHIRE.

Population about 900; or, including the whole parish, about 3000.

Lochmaben.

Site, Construction, &c.

The prison of Lochmaben is by law a regular burgh prison, but, like that of Annan, it is used as little more than a lock-up house except that debtors are admitted. The prison is a very old

and a very bad one. It consists of 3 rooms on the ground floor of the town-house, which stands at one end of the market-place. One of the rooms is a small dirty cell, and is used only for vagrants. The other rooms are larger, being each about 15 feet long, 11 feet broad, and 7 feet high. The place is dry, but it is insecure, ill ventilated, and dirty. There is an open fire-place in one of the rooms, but there are no means of warming the others. There is no airing-yard.

Prisoners.—There was one prisoner at the time of my visit—a debtor; he appeared to be tolerably clean and to be in good health. The average number of prisoners is less than one. The total of prisoners last year was 4 debtors and about 20 vagrants and drunken people. Prisoners.

Health.—There is no regular surgeon; but I was informed that the prisoners are generally tolerably well in health, which is probably owing to their usually remaining only a short time. There has been no death for many years. Health.

Food.—Debtors receive a money allowance, generally of 1*s.* per day; other prisoners get threepenny-worth of bread. Additional supplies from without are allowed; indeed they could not be prevented. Food.

Bedding.—Nothing but loose straw. There are bedsteads in one of the rooms, but they have no bottom. Bedding.

Discipline.—None. The prisoners have no employment, and the only separation is that of males from females. Communication with people in the street can be carried on with the utmost ease. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—When there is a female prisoner she is under the care of the gaoler equally with the other prisoners. Female Prisoners.

Debtors.—The debtors provide their own bedding and clothing. Visits to them are freely allowed. Debtors.

Officer.—The gaoler is a dirty and ragged old man, who has the appearance rather of a vagrant than of the keeper of a prison. Gaoler.

Fees.—The gaoler receives a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.* from the imprisoning creditor on the admission of a debtor. The town-clerk also is considered to have a claim to a fee of 5*s.* from every debtor on his release; but I was assured that this claim is seldom made, and never insisted upon. Fees.

Accounts.—There is a register of debtors, but none of criminals. The following is an account of the expenditure for the year ending 30th June, 1837:— Accounts.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Gaoler's salary	4	0	0
Repairs	0	10	0
Total	£4	10	0

Expenditure.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Jurisdiction.

State of Crime, &c. at Lochmaben.—There are a good many petty thefts (such as stealing potatoes, linen left out to dry, wood from fences, &c.), most of which escape detection. The amount of crime is stated to be about the same as formerly. For reasons similar to those mentioned in the case of Annan, I was unable to obtain information as to the number of habitual offenders, &c. Crime, &c.

August, 1837.

SANQUHAR, DUMFRIESSHIRE.

Population about 1800; or, including a district 5 miles round, about 3000.

The prison of Sanquhar is quite as bad as that of Lochmaben, if not worse. Like that of Lochmaben it is a burgh gaol, and a legal place of confinement for debtors. The prison forms part of the town-house, an old building standing on one side of an open area. There are two rooms, each about 12 feet long, 8 feet broad, and 8½ feet high; and each containing about 800 cubic feet. One of these rooms is on the ground floor, and one on the floor above. Of the two the upper one is quite the best; although even this is often very cold, and is frequently penetrated by the rain. The other cell is cold, damp, and very ill ventilated. The gaoler says that in winter icicles sometimes hang from the roof of this cell. There is a chimney in it, but no grate; and if there were a grate it would not be safe to light a fire; for some time ago, on a light being admitted, the straw caught fire, and the prisoner was near being scorched to death. This lower cell is dark, as well as damp and cold, and I found it very dirty. The upper cell is quite insecure; but the closing of the window of the lower cell has at least had the effect of making that cell tolerably safe. Site, Construction, &c. State of the Prison.

Prisoners.—There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was assured that the place is seldom used more than five or six times in the course of a year; which indeed appears to be the case from the register of imprisonments. The total number of prisoners last year was 6; viz., 5 criminals (4 males and 1 female) and 1 debtor (a male). The prisoners, debtors as well as criminals, seldom remain more than a day or two, though they occasionally stay 2 or 3 weeks; and about 18 years ago there was an instance of a debtor remaining, and that in the lower cell (which however had then a window), for 2 years. Prisoners.

Health.—Bad. When a prisoner remains any considerable time his health is sure to suffer. The debtor who remained in the prison for 2 years was so much affected as never to regain his health. A medical man in the neighbourhood, who has been called in occasionally, expressed a strong opinion to me on the unhealthiness of the prison Health.

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Reports on Separate Prisons.

Sanquhar.

Food.

Bedding.

Discipline.

Food.—Debtors receive a money allowance generally of one shilling per day; the other prisoners get four pennyworth of bread. Additional supplies are allowed; as regards prisoners in the upper cell, indeed, they could not be prevented.

Bedding.—Loose straw and two pairs of blankets. The blankets were dirty.

Discipline.—None. There is no occupation nor instruction. The only separation that is enforced is that of males from females; and this even is not insisted upon when the prisoners declare themselves to be man and wife. Before the window in the lower cell was closed, the prisoners, it is said, conducted themselves so ill as to be a nuisance to the neighbourhood. This particular evil has certainly been put a stop to by blocking up the window. The window of the upper cell does not turn towards the public street, but access is easily obtained to it; and the prisoners are supplied with whisky, &c.

Female Prisoners.

Female Prisoners.—It need scarcely be said that there is no female officer, and that no difference is made in the treatment of males and females.

Debtors.

Debtors.—Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed.

Gaoler.

Officer.—The gaoler (who does not reside on the spot) appears to be an intelligent and respectable man, and is spoken well of. The state of the lower cell was certainly discreditable to him; but it should be observed that his salary is exceedingly small.

Fees.

Fees.—The gaoler receives 2*s.* 6*d.* from the imprisoning creditor on the admission of a debtor, and fourpence per night from the burgh for every prisoner, whether debtor or criminal.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, but it is in a confused form and mixed with other matter; it contains, moreover, but few of the entries which are required by law. The account of expenses is kept by the town treasurer. The following is the expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1836:—

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Food for criminal prisoners	0	10	4
Coal	0	4	10
Straw	0	2	0
Sundries	0	4	6
Gaoler's salary (including 16*s.* 4*d.* for fees paid by the burgh)	2	18	4
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors	£4	0	0

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c., at Sanquhar and in the neighbourhood.—There is a good deal of crime, consisting chiefly of thefts from farm-houses and other dwellings (generally unaccompanied by violence), sheep-stealing, and breaches of the peace. It is believed, however, that there is less crime than formerly.

Habits, &c. of the Offenders.

Most of the offenders are from 14 to 25 years old; and they are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. It is stated that not more than one-third of the offences are committed by inhabitants of the town; the others, including almost all the serious offences, being committed by vagrants and other strangers. The peace of the town would be greatly promoted by the removal of one man who has been more than twenty times in the prison; and who is constantly getting drunk and committing assaults.

August, 1837.

DUMFRIES.

(Second Report.)

Dumfries.

Proposed Alterations.

When I was at Dumfries the first time a meeting was called of the magistrates of the burgh and of such of the county gentlemen as could readily be summoned, to consider the propriety of a number of alterations which I proposed with a view to the immediate improvement of the bad prison at this town. The meeting approved of my suggestions, and it was determined to convene regular meetings of the burgh and county, at the earliest opportunity, to sanction the raising of the necessary funds. These meetings were held, and the money was voted; but it was afterwards determined, on the appearance of the Scottish Prisons Bill, to suspend operations; and on my visit to Dumfries last August I found that nothing had been done except removing the disreputable gaoler whom I had found in office, making a better provision of bed-clothes, and paying some attention to cleanliness.

Delay.

I addressed a letter to the sheriff of the county, Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, requesting that at the next county meeting he would again urge the pressing nature of the evils of the Dumfries prison; the small sum for which an immediate improvement might be effected; and the delay that must necessarily take place before the Board of Directors would be in a position for making the requisite alterations, even supposing the Prisons Bill to pass at the earliest possible time.

Soon after the usual county meeting in October I received a letter from Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, informing me that it had been determined unanimously to proceed forthwith with the improvements (the burgh, I should remark, had all along expressed its willingness to go on with them); and a few days ago I had another letter from him, apprising me that the alterations are now nearly completed, and that they would have been finished before this time had not the weather been so severe.

Now nearly completed.

New Keeper.

I was sorry to find that more care had not been taken in filling up the place of the last gaoler. The present keeper, though, I believe, a well-meaning man, is evidently inefficient;

and I am convinced that another change must be made before a tolerable system of discipline can be established. I even found a male and female prisoner together in the same cell (one of the many irregularities which went on in the late gaoler's time), a matter quite under the keeper's control, bad as the present arrangements of the building are. I had recommended that the new keeper before being engaged should be sent to the Glasgow bridewell for a few weeks, to be under the eye of Mr. Brebner; but this advice was not acted upon.

March, 1838.

NEW GALLOWAY, KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

Population about 500; or, including a district of 5 miles in radius, about 3000.

New Galloway.

The prison of New Galloway is old and bad. It forms part of the town-house, which stands on one side of the main street; and the prisoners have constant opportunity of communicating with people in the street. There is only one room for debtors, and one cell for criminals; debtors are, however, sometimes allowed to walk in the council-room. The dimensions are as follow:— Site, Construction, &c.

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
Debtors' room	15	12	9½	1700
Criminals' cell	8	8	7	450

There is no airing-yard. A *black-hole* was formerly used for criminals, in addition to the present cell, but I was assured that no one had been put into it for many years. It is partly below ground, has no window, and is damp and dark. Old Prison.

The rooms now occupied are on the first floor of the building. There is a window in each, but that in the criminals' cell is not glazed. In wet weather both rooms are made damp by the rain, which finds admittance through the crazy walls. Each of them has a fire-place, but the criminals' cell must be cold in winter, even when a fire is allowed. In the debtors' room there must be some danger of fire, as the floor and ceiling are made of wood. Both rooms were dirty, the walls looking as if they had not been whitewashed for many a year. The place is very insecure; "desperate characters," however, are put in irons, I was told, and watched by two or three officers. State of the Prison.

Prisoners.—This prison, though a legal place of confinement for debtors and criminals, for periods of any length, has latterly been made but little use of, except as a lock-up house for persons who, the morning after their admittance, are sent on to Kirkcudbright; and even in this way it has not been much employed. The decrease in the number of debtors is probably owing to the general causes that have been in operation for some time, and which I have before enumerated. At present there is not, on an average, more than one debtor in a year, and he generally remains for only a short time; whereas, formerly, there were sometimes 4 or 5 together. The average number of other prisoners, too (except vagrants), is not more than 2 or 3 in the year. Of vagrants there are, generally, 10 or 12 during the year. The total number of prisoners last year was 5, viz.—2 criminals (males), 2 debtors (males), and 1 revenue prisoner (a female). These are exclusive of about 10 vagrants, confined each for a single night. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit. Prisoners. Average Number.

Health.—Indifferent. The closeness of the debtors' room, and the want of an airing yard, produce constipation of the bowels, head-aches, &c. No death, however, has occurred for many years. Health.

Food.—The allowance to debtors is, generally, from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day; that to other prisoners is 4*d.*; in both cases paid in money. Additional supplies from without could not be prevented. Food.

Bedding.—For criminals, loose straw and a blanket; debtors supply their own. Bedding.

Discipline.—None. The only separation, when there are several prisoners, is, that of males from females. There is no employment. The usual offences are said to be, calling to people in the street and getting whiskey in at the window. It does not appear that these offences are ever followed by punishment. Discipline.

Miscellaneous.—It would be in vain to restrict visits, or to forbid the use of tobacco, owing to the ease of communication with the street. Visits, &c.

Officers.—The gaoler (who does not reside on the spot) is said to be a good officer, but the state of the prison did not do him credit. He does not receive any money salary, but in consideration of his taking charge of the prison, and acting as a police officer when required, Lord Kenmure, who owns most of the burgh, allows him the use of a small house, rent free. There is no regularly appointed surgeon, but a medical man residing in the town is sent for when any prisoner is sick. It appears, however, that this gentleman never gets any remuneration for his services. Gaoler. Surgeon.

Fees.—The imprisoning creditor has to pay 5*s.* on the admission of a debtor; one half of which goes to the gaoler, and the other half to the town clerk. Fees.

Accounts and Expenditure.—A register of debtors is kept, which, however, is imperfect in certain particulars,—the day of liberation, for example, being sometimes omitted. No record of any kind is kept of criminal prisoners and vagrants. The expenditure for the whole of the last year amounted to 1*s.*! Accounts, &c.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Jurisdiction.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

New Galloway.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at New Galloway.—There appears to be very little crime here, and it is said that there is less than formerly. The most common offences are petty thefts. House breaking and market fights were rather common here 25 years ago, but they are now seldom heard of. This improvement is attributed partly to the spread of education.

Most of the offences are committed by children about 12 years old; but it is stated that there is not a single habitual offender of any age in the town.

August, 1837.

CASTLE DOUGLAS, KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

Population about 2000.

Castle Douglas.

Castle Douglas, not being a royal burgh, is not required to have a prison for debtors; and as criminal prisoners, unless detained for trifling offences, are sent on to Kirkcudbright as soon as possible, the prison is, in fact, used for little more than a lock-up house. A prison, however, really suitable (which the present one is not) for the reception and proper control of offenders who are committed for short periods is much wanted. The present prison consists of 2 rooms on the first floor of the town house, which stands on one side of the main street of the town. The dimensions of the rooms are as follow:

Construction, &c.

Rooms.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	17	6	9	900
1	14	7¾	10¼	1100

State of the Prison.

There is no airing yard. The rooms are dry, but they must be cold in winter, for the windows are not glazed; and fires, I was told, are never allowed; indeed, there would be a risk of the building catching fire if they were. One of the rooms is sufficiently ventilated, but the other is not. They were both rather dirty, owing chiefly to the want of whitewashing. The

Insecurity.

prison is not secure, arising partly from the opportunity which exists for communicating with people on the outside. The last escape happened 2 or 3 years ago, and was effected by means of a large hammer which the prisoner obtained through the window.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There are but few regular prisoners, but many drunken vagrants are put in for the night, and many other vagrants are admitted to sleep in it, as a favour. There was no one in at the time of my visit, though I should, probably, have found some one, had I gone at night or early in the morning.

Food.

Food.—Three or four pennyworth of bread and milk, as the magistrates may direct. Additional supplies from without are allowed.

Bedding.

Bedding.—Loose straw and two rugs. I was told that there were formerly beds, but that these had been destroyed.

Discipline.

Discipline, &c.—Males and females are kept separate, except when they are vagrants calling themselves man and wife. It is said that the prisoners generally behave well.

Gaoler.

Officer.—The gaoler (who does not reside on the spot) appears to be a good officer, and he is well spoken of: he is, however, but ill paid. As gaoler, indeed, he does not receive anything, but he is allowed a small sum as burgh officer.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The town-clerk keeps a register of convictions by the magistrates, but there is no record of imprisonments which are not preceded or followed by such conviction.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—That of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Castle Douglas.—There does not appear to be much serious crime here, but there seems to be a good deal of a petty kind, consisting chiefly of thefts, fights, and assaults.

Number of Offenders.

The criminal population, I was informed, consists of 12 or 15 boys (not more than 12 years old), 1 girl, 17 or 18 years old, and 3 women, all addicted to stealing; also 5 or 6 young men, who commit assaults and other breaches of the peace, and who sometimes almost set the authorities of the town at defiance. In addition to these resident offenders there are a good many tinkers and other vagrants, Castle Douglas being on the high road from Port Patrick to Dumfries. Some of the young thieves have lost one of their parents, and others have parents of bad character.

Police.

State of the Police.—There is only one officer, and he is very ill paid, which is not surprising, as the income of the burgh for all purposes is under 20*l.* a-year. There are some special constables, but it is stated that they do not act willingly.

August, 1837.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

Population about 3000.

Kirkcudbright.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Kirkcudbright is comparatively new, not having been built more than about 20 years. It is not, however, so constructed as readily to admit of the introduction of a good system of discipline; at least, for more than a few prisoners at a time. Several of the rooms open into one another in such a way as to make it very difficult, if not impossible, to inspect the prisoners efficiently, or to prevent their communicating with one another. Some of the rooms, too, are exceedingly small, while others are unnecessarily large. The situation of the prison, though far from unobjectionable, is better than that of most other prisons in Scotland. It is in the middle of the town, but it stands back from the street, and behind the court-house.

The site appears to be quite dry, the soil being of gravel. The cost of the prison was about 4000*l.*, of which the county paid about 2500*l.*, and the burgh about 1500*l.* There are, altogether, 17 rooms, or cells; their dimensions being as follows:—

Debtors' Rooms.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Contents. Feet.
FIRST STORY.				
1	20½	12	11	2700
1	16	7	„	1230
1	21	12	„	2750
2	10	7¼	„	800
Criminals' Rooms. (Females).				
SECOND STORY.				
1	13	7	11	1000
1	21	12	„	2750
3	7¼	6¼	„	500
(Males).				
1	20½	12½	„	2800
1	6	6	10½	400
THIRD STORY.				
1	21¾	21	10	4500
1	6½	6½	9½	400
FOURTH STORY.				
1	12	6	8	580
1	7¼	6	8	360
FIFTH STORY.				
1	13½	13	12	2100

There is an airing-yard, but it has been made subsequently to the other part of the prison, and not having been included in the description of the prison as presented to the Courts of Session and Justiciary, when application was made to have the place legalized, it does not form any part of the prison in point of law, and the Magistrates, therefore, never venture to allow debtors to go into it. Indeed this legal difficulty is not the only one, for the yard is insecure. The prison generally appears to be moderately secure, provided there be a vigilant gaoler, which is now the case. During the time of the last gaoler, however, there were several instances of escape; the last of which occurred about 2 years ago. The prison is moderately well ventilated, dry, and remarkably clean; indeed in this latter particular, it presents a pattern which might be advantageously copied elsewhere. Some of the rooms are warmed by open fires, but in others there is no artificial means of heat. There was once a warm air apparatus, but as it was found that the prisoners made use of the pipes to call to each other from room to room, the apparatus was removed. State of the Prison.

Prisoners.—This is the only prison in the county, with the exception of the wretched place at New Galloway, at which debtors are received; nevertheless, I found only 2 debtors; and I learnt that it has now become quite a rare thing to have even a single debtor. One of the two prisoners just mentioned, indeed is not a debtor in the ordinary sense of the term, he being in confinement because he cannot or will not support a bastard child. Including these 2 prisoners, there were altogether 16 at the time of my visit, which is about twice the average number. The total number of prisoners last year was 73; viz., 72 criminals (65 males and 7 females), and 1 debtor (a male). Five of the prisoners were females; and of these, one was a lunatic, who had been placed in the prison with the consent of the Magistrates, to prevent her destroying her own property, and doing injury to others: she had been in several times before. This lunatic was in a room by herself, but the other females were together, although some of them had not been tried. The male criminal prisoners were divided into two parties, in one of which there were both tried and untried prisoners. The prisoners all looked clean, though I found upon examination that some of them do not wash themselves every day. Prisoners. Average Number. Classification.

Health.—The prisoners appear generally to enjoy good health; two of them, however, were rather unwell at the time of my visit. There has been no death in the prison since it was built; no diseases can be specified as at all prevalent. Health.

Food.—The food is too abundant, and of too good quality (in some part at least), when compared with that of the poorest class of honest people. The prisoners have oatmeal-porridge and milk for breakfast and supper, and potatoe soup, or potatoes and herrings, generally, for dinner; twice a week they have pork, or beef and broth, and potatoes, for dinner, and on Sunday they are allowed tea. The food is not given in any stated quantity; and in fact, the prisoners appear to have as much as they like. It is supplied by the gaoler, who receives 6*d.* a day for each prisoner, though last year, in consideration of the high price of provisions, he was allowed somewhat more. Debtors receive a money allowance varying from 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day. Additional supplies from without are permitted to all prisoners. Food.

Clothing.—Clothing is furnished in cases of destitution, but not otherwise. Clothing.

Bedding.—A chaff mattress, 1½ pair of blankets, (2 pairs in winter), and a rug. The usual practice is for 2 prisoners to sleep together. The bedding was all clean, like every thing else in the prison. Bedding.

Discipline.—There is nothing that can be called discipline. The prisoners get up and go to bed when they choose, and pass their time in idleness, and in each other's company. There is no Discipline.

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Kirkcudbright.

provision for instruction, and at the present time the prisoners are never called to worship. The latter is stated to be only a temporary omission, owing to a recent change in the parish minister. The conduct of the prisoners is said to be generally good, though one of the neighbours, whose garden is overlooked by some of the windows, complains that the prisoners frequently call to people in his grounds, especially to females. There is, too, a small yard to which the public have access, from whence people can talk to the prisoners, and communication is sometimes carried on in this way. Prisoners frequently call to each other also from room to room. Punishment is very seldom awarded; the only recent case is one in which two prisoners were put in irons for a short time.

Little Punishment.

Female Prisoners.

Female Prisoners.—These are always kept apart from the males, but they are not under the charge of a female officer, and no distinction is made in their treatment.

Debtors.

Debtors.—There used to be many debtors here, but, as already stated, there are now very few. During the year ending the 30th of April last there was only a single debtor, and he remained only one day. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. When there is public worship in the prison the attendance of debtors is optional; some attend, but others do not.

Visits, &c.
Smoking, &c.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler; letters are inspected by him. Smoking tobacco is forbidden, but the rule is sometimes broken by tobacco being smuggled into the gaol; taking snuff is allowed. There is no provision for sending prisoners back to their own parishes on their liberation.

Gaoler.

Officers.—The gaoler (who resides on the spot), appears to be an active, intelligent, and well-conducted man, and to be well qualified for his duties. The sheriff, provost, and other gentlemen, spoke highly of him, and I received no complaint concerning him from the prisoners. The gaoler is occasionally allowed an assistant, but he generally acts alone.

Fees.

Fees.—The only fee is one of 2*s.* 6*d.* from the incarcerating creditor on the admission of a debtor. One half goes to the town-clerk, and the other half to the gaoler.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, and the town-chamberlain and collector of cess an account of the expenses. The register contains the age and personal description of each prisoner, but does not show by what court he was tried, or whether he had been in the prison before.

Expenditure.

The following is an abstract of the expenditure for the year ending 30th of April, 1836, (about 40*l.* less than the average yearly expenditure):—

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Food	70	19	3
Clothing	3	18	6
Furniture and Bedding	4	6	11
Fuel	16	2	0
Washing	0	14	0
Straw	0	15	0
Repairs	2	6	5
Salaries			
Keeper £40 0 0			
Occasional Assistant 4 14 0			
	44	14	0
Medical attendance and Medicines	5	3	6
Total	148	19	7

(Rather more than one-half of this sum was paid by the county; the remainder by the burgh).
Average number of prisoners during the year, 6½.

Cost per head.

Average cost of each prisoner during the year about 23*l.* Daily cost about 1*s.* 3*d.*

General Observations.

General Observation.—The prisoners pass so comfortable a life that the effect of the imprisonment must be but slightly deterring; indeed, it is believed that some of the poachers in the neighbourhood have no objection whatever to pass the winter in the prison.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Kirkcudbright.—There appears be very little crime at this town. It is stated, indeed, that there is not a single person living in the town who is in the habit of stealing, and that there is no sane inhabitant who often disturbs the peace. There are, however, no fewer than 14 lunatics in this small town, and some of these, when in their fits of insanity, create disturbance and alarm.

August, 1837.

Improvements.

Before leaving Kirkcudbright I recommended the adoption of the following rules in the prison; and it will be seen by the remarks of Dr. Shand, the provost, and by the extracts of a letter from him, which are appended, that most of these rules have now been brought into operation:—

	Remarks.
1. *Admittance of a Prisoner.*—Every criminal prisoner, on his admittance, to be carefully examined, that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, or whether he has anything in his pockets unsuitable to a prison—as money, knives, &c. The prisoner then to go into the bath, or to wash himself from head to foot, and his hair to be cut if necessary.	All enforced.
	The bath has not been used, but cleanliness in prison is enforced.

	Remarks.
2. *Separation.*—The prisoners to be kept separate, as far as the accommodation will admit; no prisoner, however, to be constantly confined in either of the very small rooms.	Attended to.
3. *Work.*—The gaoler and his wife to do their best to procure work for such prisoners as wish to be employed, and the prisoners to be allowed one half of the profits; this to be paid them on leaving the prison in such way as the provost may direct.	These directions have been complied with as far as practicable.
4. *Food.*—The dietary of the Glasgow bridewell to be adopted, subject to any modifications which local circumstances may suggest. This dietary is as follows:—*Breakfast*—10¾ oz. of oatmeal made into porridge with some buttermilk. *Dinner*—4 oz. of barley made into 2 pints of soup (with vegetables, marrow-bones, and seasoning), and from 4 oz. to 11 oz. (according to the age, &c. of the prisoner) of coarse bread. (See first Report on the Prisons of Scotland, page 58).—Fermented liquor of every kind, and all other luxuries—such as tea, tobacco, snuff, &c., to be forbidden; and no supplies of food from friends and acquaintances outside the prison to be allowed.	As far as local circumstances would permit, the diet has been followed. All luxuries mentioned are prohibited. The only fermented liquor used is treacle beer to the porridge, instead of milk, which cannot, at times, be had.
5. *Clothing.*—A few complete suits of clothes, including linen, &c., to be procured both for males and females; and the gaoler to be authorised to take a prisoner's own clothes from him when he thinks it necessary, and give him a prison dress instead. The prisoner, however, to have his own clothes back again, and to give up the prison dress on leaving the gaol.	Owing to a misapprehension, the wishes of the magistrates on this point have not yet been carried into effect; but they intend doing so.
6. *Cleanliness.*—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning; and not to receive his breakfast until the gaoler has examined him, and satisfied himself that he has obeyed the regulation.	This is said to be followed out, but when the prison is crowded, as has lately been the case, perhaps it has not been very strictly enforced.
7. *Visiters.*—Visits to be restricted to one day in the week, viz.—Friday, between the hours of — and —. No visiter to stay more than five minutes, and the keeper to be present during the interview. No visiter to be admitted beyond the grated doors without a special order, to be granted only under peculiar circumstances by the provost. A register to be kept by the gaoler of all visiters, stating their names and residences.	Visits are restricted to Fridays, but owing to the crowded state of the prison, and to there being only one gaoler, it has not been found practicable always to enforce the other recommendations.
8. The foregoing regulations to apply to females equally with males.	Completely followed out.
9. *Exceptions.*—The regulations do not extend to debtors; and the rule respecting visiters is not to apply to the legal adviser of an untried prisoner.	Attended to.

"There is much difficulty in procuring work for the prisoners of such a nature as they can be employed in; almost the only one, hitherto, for the males, has been breaking stones for macadamizing the streets; and some of them accustomed to this have made a tolerable sum at half of the usual rate of payment. In some cases a portion of their gains has been paid on their account before liberation, for washing their clothes.

"Restricting the visits to a part of one day in the week, and prohibiting friends from supplying food or any of the luxuries mentioned, has had a most excellent effect. In one case of a girl of 12, confined for stealing in a shop, these deprivations seemed the greatest punishment both to her and her parents, who were not considered as totally blameless. In their distress, at the adoption of the new regulations, they prevailed on the gaoler to allow a medical practitioner to visit her, after their seeing her on Friday, and on the Sunday night, between 10 and 11, they reported to me his opinion, that she could not live in gaol until morning. On going to see her, I found that the deprivation of tea, night and morning, and of her mother's visits, was producing a salutary heart-sickness, the recollection of which is more likely to check her thieving propensities than ten times the period of imprisonment in communication with her parents would have done."

March, 1838.

GATEHOUSE, KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

Population about 2000.

Gatehouse.

A lock-up House only.

The prison of Gatehouse, which is a lock-up house only, was built about twelve years ago by Mr. Murray, of Broughton, who owns most of the property in the village. The prison consists of two rooms, each 14 feet long, 10½ feet broad, and 8½ feet high. These rooms form the second story of the building, the first being occupied by the porter, who has the care of one of

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Gatehouse.

Its state.

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Bedding.

Jurisdiction.

the gates opening into Mr. Murray's grounds. The place is dry and tolerably secure, but it is ill ventilated, the windows being almost closed by iron shutters, put up to prevent prisoners from obtaining supplies of whiskey, &c., from the outside, which was a constant practice, it is said, before this was done. There are no means of warming the prison; but owing to the thickness of the walls and to the smallness of the apertures for air, the place is probably seldom very cold. I found the prison clean, and the Provost assured me that it generally is so. There was no one in confinement, and it was stated that there are not more than twenty or thirty put in during the year, and these for a single night only. The prisoners consist chiefly of drunken people found disturbing the peace. Loose straw, lying on the ground, is all that is allowed for bedding. I was told that there were once bedsteads, but that they had been broken.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c. at Gatehouse.—There appears to be very little crime here, and what is committed is of a petty kind—such as drunken brawls, robbing gardens, &c. It is stated that the number of offences is much less than it was thirty or forty years ago; not that there were any serious offences at that time, but that those of the kind which still occur were much more common then than they are now. The only inhabitants at the present time who give much trouble, are two drunken fellows, who commit assaults and otherwise disturb the peace. They have both been repeatedly in gaol, and it would be a great relief to the town if they could be got rid of. It is stated that about one-half of the offences are committed by strangers, though the number of these has been greatly reduced by the measures adopted, about seven years ago, to suppress vagrancy, which have been very successful.

Causes of the decrease of crime.

The improvement that has taken place in the state of crime at Gatehouse is attributed partly to the increased attention to education, to the improvement in the condition of the people (which appears to have been strikingly great), and to the decline in drunkenness; and partly to the erection of the prison and the suppression of vagrancy just referred to. As respects the latter, it may be well to state, for the information of the inhabitants of other small towns, that the whole expense of the beggars at Gatehouse is now under 5*s.* per week, including a salary of 3*s.* 6*d.* per week to an old military pensioner for looking after them. Public begging is entirely stopped, but the cases are examined (when the parties wish it), and relief afforded where the person is believed to be in real distress. One gentleman told me that the beggars used to cost him, as an individual, more than they now cost the whole town.

Begging stopped.

August, 1837.

CREETOWN, KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

Population about 1500.

Creetown.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison of Creetown is quite new. The building consists of four cells for prisoners, and of two small rooms for the keeper. These form the ground floor; and above them is a large room, intended to serve as the Town-hall. The building is in the middle of the town, and on one side of the main street. It cost about 300*l.*, including the land on which it stands. The prison portion of the building is not on a good construction, though the arrangement is better than that of most other small prisons. Communication from without can be carried on, though not very easily. The ceiling is insecure, and the floor is too low. There has already been an attempt at escape, though it was not effectual. The following are the dimensions of the cells:—

Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
2	10¼	9¼	9½	900
2	6	5	9½	300
4				

State of the Prison.

There is no airing-yard. I found the place clean; but it is not well ventilated, and there is no means of warming it. The two smallest cells, moreover, are almost dark.

Lock-up House only.

The prison is used only as a lock-up house, no one being detained in it more than twenty-four hours. There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit; and I was told that there is not, on an average, more than one prisoner per week; and that four is the greatest number that have been in confinement at any one time, since the prison was in use, which, however, is not many months. Those put in consist chiefly of drunken people, apprehended for disturbing the peace. Loose straw is all that is allowed for bedding.

Prisoners.

Bedding.

Effect produced.

This new prison, imperfect as it is, appears to have produced considerable effect, the peace of the town being much less disturbed now than it was before its erection.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrate of the burgh.

Jurisdiction.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Creetown.—I was informed that there is a good deal of petty crime here; the offences consisting chiefly of petty thefts (such as stealing hay, potatoes, wood from the plantations, &c.) and assaults. The number of offences, however, is much smaller than it was. It is stated, that before the lock-up house was built, it was scarcely safe to walk along the streets, assaults were so common, especially on the Saturday evening (when the men employed in a neighbouring stone-quarry are paid), and on the Sunday, people having being attacked when going to church.

Number, and habits of the offenders.

It is stated that there are about 40 men, belonging to the stone-quarry, who are in the habit of getting drunk, and of fighting and committing assaults. More than half of these are

Irishmen. There are also about 20 boys and girls, together with some women, who steal when they have an opportunity; and besides these there are many vagrants who commit offences.

The man who acts as gaoler and police officer appears to be active and efficient, and is spoken well of, but he is ill paid, and cannot consequently give much of his time to the duties of his office.

August, 1837.

KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

Population about 42,000.

Kirkcudbrightshire.

Prisons existing at present.—Six; viz., a prison for criminals and debtors at Kirkcudbright and at New Galloway, a small prison for criminals at Maxwelltown (used chiefly as a lock-up house), and a lock-up house at Castle Douglas, Gatehouse, and Creetown.—No prison is required at any other place, but better prisons are wanted at New Galloway and Castle Douglas, and alterations, to a greater or less extent, are necessary in all the other prisons.

Prisons existing.

State of Crime in Kirkcudbrightshire.—There appears to be but little serious crime in this county, but a good deal of petty crime, the chief offences consisting of thefts and assaults. All agree that serious offences are less common now than formerly, but I found a difference of opinion as to the increase or decrease of minor offences, except as respects fights at fairs, &c., which there is no doubt have become less common. Cases of highway robbery and housebreaking used sometimes to occur, but they have now almost entirely disappeared. Smuggling too, which often led to serious outrages, has now died away. The present offenders are distinguished (as probably were their predecessors) by habits of drunkenness. It is stated that nearly one-half of them are strangers to the county, or at least have resided in it only a short time. Many of the offenders are Irish. Blackcraig, a mining village near Newton Stewart, was mentioned as a place distinguished for riotous conduct.

Crime, &c.

Serious offences less common than formerly.

Habits &c. of the offenders.

Police.—The police appears to be on a much better footing than formerly, though not yet in a very efficient state.

Police.

August, 1837.

NEWTON STEWART, WIGTOWNSHIRE.

Newton Stewart.

Population rather more than 2000; or, including that of the adjoining village of Creebridge or Minnigaff, about 2500.

The prison of this town consists of a single cell 9¼ feet long, 5¼ broad, and 6½ feet in average height, and containing, therefore, but little more than 300 cubic feet. It is insecure and very ill ventilated, though I believe it is more secure and better in other respects than it was till within the last two years, that is, before the appointment of the police officer who has now the care of it. The place is still however very unfit for the purpose to which it is applied. The cell is on the ground-floor of the town-house, the door opening into the street, and the grated aperture, which serves as a window, being also accessible, though not so much so as formerly. As a means of security, persons confined are sometimes put in irons, and sometimes also, notwithstanding the extreme smallness of the place, an officer remains with them.

Construction, &c.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit. I was told that there are from 20 to 30 regular prisoners in the course of the year, besides 70 or 80 beggars. No one, I was assured, is ever detained more than 24 hours, he being at the end of that time either liberated or removed to Wigtown. The bedding consists of two blankets and some loose straw.

Prisoners.

Bedding.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace.

Jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Newton Stewart, and in the neighbourhood. There appear to be many assaults here, and many petty thefts, such as robbing gardens, stealing linen left out to dry, &c. It is stated, however, that as respects assaults and other breaches of the peace, at least, there has been a great improvement within the last few years; which is attributed in great measure to the exertions of a Catholic clergyman, who settled here about ten years ago, and who appears to have gained the esteem and respect of the whole neighbourhood.

Crime, &c.

It is stated that there are three bad families at Newton Stewart (all Irish), and a considerable number of children who steal when they have an opportunity. There are also ten or twelve noted young men, some of whom are sure to be engaged in any tumult or assault that takes place. These young men, it need scarcely be said, are addicted to drinking. Most of the parents of the young thieves are observed to be very neglectful of their children; some, indeed, are known to encourage them in their bad habits. The offences appear to be committed chiefly by Irish vagrants and Irish families partially settled in the village.

Number and habits of the offenders.

Police.—About two years ago a respectable and efficient officer was engaged, chiefly to look after vagrants, and his exertions are said to have been followed by a considerable decrease in the number of offences. The chief part of this man's salary is paid by the Earl of Galloway. Before his appointment the officers employed are said to have been worthless and drunken fellows, who, for a glass of whiskey, would allow an offender to escape from them.

Police.

August, 1837.

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Wigtown.

WIGTOWN.

Population about 1500.

Site, construction, &c.
Escapes.

The prison of Wigtown forms part of the town-house, which is an old building standing in the middle of the town, on one side of a street sloping towards the bay. The prison is in every respect ill-suited to its purposes. It is very insecure. It affords no means of setting the prisoners to work, or of separating them, or of preventing constant communication with people on the outside. The last instance of escape happened about a year ago, when four prisoners got away together, of whom only one was retaken, and it was only on his committing a new offence that he was apprehended. All these prisoners were in confinement for serious offences, three of them having been convicted of passing forged notes, and one of sheep-stealing. (Two of the offenders were father and son.) In their first attempt to escape, the prisoners made their way into a room occupied by a female prisoner, but the mode by which they succeeded, was by making a hole in the wall between their own room and the town-hall, and then getting out through one of the windows. Such is the known insecurity of the gaol, that when any person is in confinement under a serious charge, the magistrates generally call upon the inhabitants to keep watch and ward, a duty which it appears they are here empowered to enforce, and in fact, when thus required, the inhabitants do in turn (either in their own persons or by deputy) keep watch through the night. But even this precaution has not always been effectual, as the above escape testifies. I was informed, indeed, that in one instance a debtor succeeded in getting away, even while a guard was stationed at the very door of his room. In fact, a prison like that of Wigtown (and the same observation will apply to all the prisons of this county) is calculated to bring the administration of justice into contempt, by rendering its decrees futile.—

Parish school.

One portion of the town-house is occupied as the parish school, and among other branches of learning, an opportunity is afforded for initiation in the arts of crime, for the conversation of the prisoners can be distinctly overheard by the scholars; and the language made use of is so bad and disgusting, that, as a means of drowning it to some extent, the schoolmaster is often obliged to direct his pupils to make as much noise as they can in conning over their lessons. If the boys choose, however, to hear the conversation of the prisoners, and even to join in it, they have no difficulty in doing so when from under their master's eye. Persons living in the neighbourhood of the prison are annoyed like the schoolmaster, though not to the same extent; and such is the ease of communication between the prisoners and their associates on the outside, that a lady told me that a few days before my arrival she had seen a bottle, probably containing whiskey, drawn up three times in one morning to the window of a female prisoner, the bottle on one occasion afterwards going up to the cell above, which was occupied by two boys.

Communication with the outside.

The prison consists of 3 rooms and 3 cells; their dimensions being as follows:—

Rooms.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
2	15	10	7¾	1150
1	9	9	10	800
Cells.				
3	9	9	6½	520
6				

State of the Prison.

There is no airing-yard. The rooms are dry, but the cells must sometimes be damp, owing in part to their closeness. The rooms are warmed by open fires (without any security existing against the building catching fire); but there are no means of warming the cells; and as the windows in these cells are unglazed, they must, in winter, be very cold. The whole of the prison is ill ventilated, and I learned that it is often dirty, though at the time of my visit it was tolerably clean; indeed, some of it had been newly white-washed, and had a very fresh and neat appearance; these improved looks, however, were, I believe, chiefly owing to exertions made during the two or three previous days. The surgeon who generally attends the prison stated that when the place is at all crowded, the want of privies is severely felt; all the prisoners in the same room being compelled to make use of the same bucket.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There were 3 prisoners at the time of my visit (2 males and 1 female), which is about the average number, though less by 2 than the average of last year. The total number of prisoners last year was 29; viz., 22 criminals (19 males and 3 females) and 7 debtors (males). These are exclusive of 30 or 40 persons put in for a single night, chiefly for disturbing the peace whilst drunk. One of the prisoners, a boy, is the individual who escaped and was afterwards apprehended for a new offence. This boy has been in gaol many times, and there is every probability of his proceeding to more and more heinous crimes. There is another boy in the same cell with him, whom he is probably tutoring to follow in his course. I found the prisoners tolerably clean, but I learned from the surgeon that they are sometimes dirty. There is no regulation to oblige them to wash themselves.

Health.

Health.—Indifferent; when a prisoner is confined for a long time especially, his health often gives way. The most prevalent diseases are bowel complaints, catarrh, swelling of the limbs, pleurisy, and venereal disorders. There has been no epidemic in the prison, and no death for a considerable time. The surgeon considers the illness to be brought on to some extent by the closeness of the rooms and the dampness of the under cells.

Food.

Food.—The allowance for food is paid in money, and is generally 6*d.* a day, though sometimes only 4½*d.* Debtors generally get 1*s.* 6*d.* a day. Additional supplies from without are allowed to all prisoners.

Bedding.

Bedding.—The supply of bedding is not regular, and the surgeon is of opinion that it is often insufficient. It is stated to consist generally of a mattress filled with chaff or straw,

1½ pair of blankets, and a coverlet. The bed clothes were dirty.—The prisoners are not supplied with body clothing except as an occasional gift.

Discipline.—None of any kind. The prisoners get up and go to bed when they like, and pass their time in constant idleness and in each other's corrupting society; the only separation that is regularly enforced being that of males from females. The gaoler says that he sometimes teaches those who are unable to read or write, but the prisoners are never assembled for public worship. It was stated, indeed, that the prison is occasionally visited by a clergyman, but that his kindness is sometimes repaid by insult.—The usual offences are shouting from the windows, insulting people in the street (sometimes addressing them with obscene language), obtaining supplies of whiskey, and attempting to escape. The offenders are sometimes put into the lower cells, but they generally go unpunished. Corporal punishment is never employed. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and no difference is made in the treatment of males and females. Female Prisoners.

Debtors.—There was no debtor at the time of my visit, and the average number during the last year was only 1. Debtors generally make use of the prison bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. Owing to the want of accommodation debtors are sometimes mixed with criminals. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. It would be useless to attempt to prevent or restrain visits, or the smoking of tobacco. Visits, &c.

Officer.—I heard different opinions expressed as to the qualifications of the gaoler, and the way in which he performs his duties. He appears, however, to be an intelligent and active man, and I should hope that under good regulations he would fill the office well. I received no complaint of unkind treatment. There is no regularly-appointed surgeon, but a surgeon is sent for when required. Gaoler. Surgeon.

Fees.—The only fee is one of 5*s.* from the incarcerating creditor; half of which goes to the gaoler and half to the town-clerk. Fees.

Accounts.—The town-clerk keeps a register of imprisonments, and the town-treasurer a record of disbursements. The register of imprisonments does not, however, include the names of persons put in for a single night, for drunkenness, nor does it show the number of recommitments. The following is an abstract of the expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1836. The amount is about twice that of an average year. Accounts.

	£.	s.	d.
Money allowance to criminal prisoners	32	13	10
Paid for a prisoner in Ayr gaol	2	14	9½
Clothing	0	10	6
Furniture and bedding	2	9	8
Fuel	0	9	8
Washing	0	8	6
Straw	0	7	6
Repairs	12	10	5
Additions	2	5	4
Sundries	1	16	8
Salaries:—			
Gaoler £29 16 3*			
Surgeon (including charge for medicine) 5 0 0			
Occasional assistants 1 6 5			
	36	2	8
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors	£92	9	6½

Expenditure.

Of this sum 75*l.* 5*s.* 0½*d.* was paid by the burgh, and the remainder, 17*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* (the cost of the aliment of prisoners before trial), by the county.

Average number of prisoners during the year 5, viz., 4 criminals and 1 debtor.

Average cost of each criminal prisoner during the year about 19*l.*; average daily cost about 1*s.* Cost per Head.

Jurisdiction.—The prisoners under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Jurisdiction.

September, 1837.

The building being very old and weak, I did not think it advisable to urge the magistrates to attempt much by way of improvement. I recommended the following regulations, however, and it will be seen by the accompanying statements of the provost that they have been acted upon:— Improvements.

	Remarks.
1. *Separations.*—The prisoners to be kept separate as far as the accommodation of the prison will admit.	This has been carefully attended to.
2. *Cleanliness.*—Every prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning; and not to receive his daily allowance until the gaoler has examined him, and satisfied himself that he has obeyed this regulation.	The gaoler strictly enforces this regulation.
—The prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a week, and the cost to be deducted from the allowance of 6*d.* per day.	The gaoler's wife washes for the prisoners where they have no relative to do it for them.
—Every prisoner to keep his cell, &c. clean, so far as lies in his power, subject to a deduction of 1*d.* per day for neglect.	The gaoler attends strictly to the prison being kept clean.

* The gaoler's usual salary is 25*l.* The excess was caused by a change of officers.

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Improvements.

3. *Offences and Punishments.*—Every prisoner who shall call to any person outside the gaol, or call to a prisoner in another cell, or make a noise of any kind, or use improper language, or receive supplies of any kind through the window, or who shall otherwise misconduct himself, shall lose 1*d.* of his daily allowance for every such offence, provided that the deductions on any one day do not reduce the prisoner's allowance below 3*d.*; deductions beyond that sum being carried into effect on the following days.

4. The foregoing regulations to apply to females equally with males.

5.—*Gaoler.*—The gaoler to see that all regulations are carried into effect, and that the prison is constantly neat and clean. To lime-wash the whole of the prison (including the lower cells) once every four months. To keep a register of deductions from the prisoners' allowance, but not to have any portion of the money deducted, himself.

Remarks.

Hitherto the gaoler reports there has been no reason for complaint. He has been enjoined not to overlook any offence, and punishment will be strictly enforced by withholding aliment.

Only 1 female for 24 hours, and another for 3 days, have been imprisoned since 1st August, 1837.

The gaoler resides in the gaol, and will carefully enforce the regulations. He is, and has always been, particularly attentive to keep the prison clean.

Since Mr. Hill's visit the prison has been white-washed with lime, &c.

The magistrates have directed a register to be kept, and they will take care that none of the fines get into the gaoler's pocket.

Wigtown, 2nd March, 1838. GEO. M'HAFFIE.

I have also received the following letter from the provost, in which other improvements are mentioned:—

" Dear Sir, " Wigtown, 2nd March, 1838.

" I have the pleasure of your letter of 19th ult., enclosing Regulations recommended by you for the gaol of this burgh, and as you desire, I have stated opposite each Regulation what has been done, and return the paper. I may state that Copies of your Regulations have been framed and put up in the several apartments of the prison; and I have no doubt but they must have had considerable effect in improving the conduct and enforcing attention to cleanliness, so essential in a prison, especially one so incommodious and confined as the gaol at Wigtown.

" Since you visited this prison, rooms have been prepared and fitted up in it for the gaoler, which must increase the security and tend to the advantage of the prisoners themselves, in having the gaoler or some of his family at a call. The 3 cells also on the ground floor have been fitted up, supplied with strong iron doors, windows well secured, and strong wooden floors, making them almost equal to the prisons on the second and third floor. This outlay has been rendered necessary from the increase of prisoners, particularly for offences against the game-laws, requiring more accommodation. Still the extent of the prison does not afford the means of a proper classification of offenders; and I have no doubt that the Prison Discipline Bill, when it becomes the law of the land, will completely meet this important object, and in this respect it must be of great advantage to the public.

" I remain, dear Sir, yours sincerely,

" Frederic Hill, Esq., Inspector of Prisons." " GEO. M'HAFFIE.

The immediate cause of the alteration for providing accommodation for the gaoler in the prison was a fresh escape of a prisoner. This escape was effected by cutting a hole through the ceiling of one of the upper rooms, then getting on to the roof, and descending into the street by means of a rope.

March, 1838.

WHITHORN, WIGTOWNSHIRE.

Population about 1400.

Whithorn.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Whithorn forms the back part of the town-house, which was built about 22 years ago. Though of such recent erection, however, the prison is very badly constructed, being insecure, and affording no means of preventing communication from without. There are 3 rooms and 2 small cells, the latter (which are damp and infested with rats) being however but seldom used. The dimensions of the rooms are as follows:—

Rooms.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	11	10	6½	700
1	11	10	7	770
1	16	12	11	2100
3				

State of the Prison.

There is no airing-yard. One of the rooms is damp, but the other two are tolerably dry. The rooms have fire-places, but they must be cold in winter, owing to the damp state of one of them, and the draughts through the others. In one of the ceilings there were several holes which had been partially stopped up by cloths thrust into them. The cells were in a slovenly state, and one of the rooms was exceedingly dirty, and was also very offensive from the stench which proceeded from the prisoners' bucket. The insecurity and communication from without have already been referred to. The last instance of escape happened rather more than 2 years ago, and was on the part of a woman who was assisted by accomplices on the outside. Escapes would probably occur more frequently than they do, were it not that a guard is kept when an attempt is apprehended. So constant is the communication from without, that one of the prisoners at the present time is generally supplied with his food by means of a cord from the window.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—Both debtors and criminals are received here, and there was one of each class at the time of my visit. The average number of prisoners is between 1 and 2. The total number last year was 6, all criminals, 5 being males and 1 a female. These are exclusive

of about 20 persons put in for slight offences, but not recorded. The prisoners were moderately clean, but it is left to themselves to wash as often or as seldom as they choose; and the gaoler said it is but seldom that they do wash themselves. Both of the prisoners were males.

Health.—Tolerably good; but the medical man observed that the prisoners seldom remain long enough to be much affected. The most common disorders are bowel complaints. There has been no epidemic in the prison for many years. The only death during the last 20 years was that of a lunatic boy, who died in one of the damp cells. He had for a long time been confined in one of the upper rooms, but his conduct had become so outrageous that he was removed into the cell. He had been brought to trial on a charge of murder, having on some slight provocation killed another boy; but, it appearing that he was subject to fits of insanity, he was sentenced to confinement during the remainder of his life. Health.

Food.—The allowance for food is paid in money, and is generally sixpence a day to criminals and a shilling or eighteenpence to debtors. Additional supplies from without are permitted to all prisoners. Food.

Bedding.—A straw mattress (or some loose straw) and a pair of blankets. Clothing is not supplied except in cases of destitution. Bedding.

Discipline.—None of any kind. The criminal prisoner whom I found in confinement had been conducting himself in a most outrageous manner about an hour before my arrival, having threatened to dash out the gaoler's brains with a stone which he had got from the wall. When I spoke to him on the subject he denied having done so, but as I detected him in a falsehood in another matter, and as his general conduct had been very violent, I have little doubt that the accusation was true. The surgeon stated that once when he came to see this young fellow, he attempted to stab him, and would probably have succeeded had it not been for the gaoler. I was informed that he attempted to stab the provost also, who assisted in his apprehension. When, too, the clergyman of the parish once came to visit him, the prisoner swore at him and frightened him away. In addition to other offences committed in the prison, it is stated that the prisoners frequently get drunk. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and no difference is made in the treatment of males and females. Female Prisoners.

Debtors.—There had been no debtor for a considerable time before the one that I found in confinement. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler. Smoking could not be prevented if it were contrary to rule, which it is not. Visits. Smoking.

Officer.—The gaoler appears to be much better qualified for his office than could be expected, from the poor remuneration which is afforded; which is less than 5*l.* a-year. The criminal prisoner complained very much of the gaoler's conduct towards him, but I believe his complaints to have been unfounded. There is no regularly appointed surgeon, but a medical man is sent for, at the expense of the burgh, when required. Gaoler. Surgeon.

Fees.—None appear to be demanded. Fees.

Accounts.—The town-clerk keeps a record of imprisonments and an account of expenditure. The dates of liberation, however, are not entered; and the accounts are somewhat entangled. Accounts.

The following appears to have been the expenditure for the year ending the 15th of October, 1836:— Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Money allowance to criminal prisoners	10	17	0½
Clothing	0	16	11
Washing	1	11	9
Repairs	3	12	4
Gaoler's salary	4	10	2
Surgeon, including charge for medicine	0	6	0
	£21	14	2½

Average number of prisoners during the year 1¼; all criminals.
Average cost of each prisoner during the year about 15*l.* Cost per Head.

General Observation.—The effect of imprisonment in this gaol under the circumstances described must be injurious. There is no record of recommitments, but I was told that they are of frequent occurrence. General Observations.

Jurisdiction.—The prisoner is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Whithorn.—There does not appear to be much serious crime here, but there seems to be a good deal of petty crime, consisting chiefly of petty thefts, such as robbing gardens, stealing poultry, stealing linen left out to dry, &c. It is stated that there is more stealing now than formerly, but that there is not so much fighting. Crime, &c.

There is no sufficient police in the town (owing to the want of funds), and I was therefore unable to obtain definite information as to the number of habitual offenders. Police.

August, 1837.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Glenluce.

GLENLUCE, WIGTOWNSHIRE.

Population about 1200.

A lock-up House only.

The prison of Glenluce, which is used only as a lock-up house, is an arched cell, 15 feet long, 6½ feet broad, and 6½ feet high, without window or chimney, or any other means of light or ventilation. The building, of which it forms part, was once the town-house, but it is now private property, and the tenant is paid a guinea a-year for allowing the county to make use of this cell as a lock-up house. No instance of escape is remembered, but an attempt was made about 2 years ago. The prison would not be a secure place of confinement for persons under serious charges, and it is never used as such; persons of this description being kept in a public-house until they can be sent on to Stranraer. The cell is dry, but I found it dirty. There

Prisoners.

was, however, no prisoner, and I was told that there are not on an average more than about a dozen in the course of the year, and that these are chiefly drunken people put in for disturbing the peace.

Bedding.

No bedding of any kind is provided by the county; I was told, however, that when the night is cold the prisoners are supplied with loose straw by private charity. There is no provision

Food.

also for feeding the prisoners, but no one, I was assured, is ever detained more than 24 hours, and it is very seldom, I believe, that any one is kept even for that time.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Glenluce.—I was informed that there is a great deal of petty crime here, the offences consisting chiefly of thefts and assaults. The most common kinds of theft are said to be stealing clothes and food, and breaking into houses, unaccompanied, however, by personal violence.

Increase.

The amount of crime is said to have considerably increased during the last 4 or 5 years; which is attributed in part to the increased number of vagrants, of whom there are sometimes as many as 50 found in the lodging-houses in one night. The circumstance of Glenluce being on the high road from Portpatrick is, of course, one cause of this great influx of vagrants.

Number, and habits of the offenders.

It is reported that there are 10 or 12 persons living in Glenluce who steal when they have an opportunity, and that there are 5 or 6 others who are in the habit of committing assaults. It appears, however, that few of these offenders have been born and bred up in the town, most of them being Irish who have acquired a settlement here. Indeed the population of the town is said now to consist chiefly of Irish; and similar remarks on the extent to which the Irish have settled in Wigtownshire were made in different parts of the county. The offenders are said to be distinguished for habits of drunkenness, and to be below others in education. Their parents, when known, are generally found to be of bad character.

Police.

There is only one police officer in the town, and for the performance of all his duties, including some not connected with police matters, he receives only five pounds a-year. Not only is there a deficiency in the police establishment, but there is a want of some one in authority to enforce the laws; for there is only one gentleman in the neighbourhood who is in the commission of the peace, and he, of course, is sometimes from home; and as a matter of necessity, persons are sometimes put in confinement without any warrant for so doing; which, it need not be remarked, is a very objectionable practice, and one which might entail serious consequences. It thus appears that Glenluce is at the same time unprovided with a proper police officer to arrest offenders, with a resident magistrate to punish them, and with a prison to keep them in security.

September, 1837.

STRANRAER, WIGTOWNSHIRE.

Stranraer.

Population, including that of the adjoining suburbs of Clayhole and Hillhead (which are in the Parliamentary burgh, but not in the Royalty), about 5,000. Exclusive of these places the population is about 4,000.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Stranraer is on a bad construction. It was formed out of an old castle about eighteen years ago, at a cost of about 700*l*. There are five rooms and one cell; the latter, however, being used only for drunken people and vagrants.

The dimensions of the rooms, &c., are as follows:—

Rooms.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
Women's room	14	7¼	9	900
Men's room	16	7¼	9	1000
Room for refractory	14	8	9	1000
Two debtors' rooms, each	16	11	9½	1650
Lower cell	14	12	about 15	2500

State of the Prison.

There is no airing-yard. The prison generally is dry; but the debtors' rooms, which form the highest floor, are sometimes damp, owing to the roof being unsound. The prison is warmed by open fires, but it is sometimes cold, owing to draughts and smoky chimnies; the latter making it necessary sometimes to put out the fires. The ventilation is not very good. I found the prison rather dirty (the walls particularly so), and the rooms which were occu-

Insecurity.

pied, had a slovenly appearance. The prison is insecure. The last escape took place about two years ago; but before the present keeper came into office (about four years since) escapes were of frequent occurrence; and some of them, it is believed, were effected by bribing the man who then acted as gaoler, who, it is said, was drunken and of bad character. Some of the offenders who thus got away had committed serious offences; one particularly was men-

tioned who was under sentence of transportation for life. Besides the instance of escape which has occurred during the time of the present gaoler, there have been some attempts at escape which were nearly successful; one particularly was mentioned, in which a debtor had nearly made his way through the roof, which can be readily got at through the ceiling of a passage in which the debtors are allowed to walk; this passage being their only place of exercise.

Prisoners.—There were 7 criminal prisoners at the time of my visit (4 males and 3 females), but there was no debtor. The average number of prisoners is about 10; viz., about 9 criminals and 1 debtor. The total number of prisoners last year was 54,—viz., 45 criminals (40 males and 5 females), and 9 debtors, all males. I found the 4 male prisoners together, and the 3 females together; both the rooms in which they were confined being small, and used both by day and by night: and, generally speaking, all, or nearly all, the criminal prisoners are placed in these two rooms, however many there may be. Some of the prisoners were clean, but others were dirty; and I found, in my private examination, that some of them occasionally go a whole week without washing themselves. Prisoners.

Health.—Generally tolerably good, although most of the prisoners fall off somewhat during their confinement. The ordinary complaints are inflammatory attacks and constipation of the bowels. Itch also is common, but the disorder is so very general among the labouring classes in this district, that it is scarcely regarded as a complaint. There has been no death in the prison for several years. The medical man who generally attends when any one is sick, accounts for the small amount of illness, notwithstanding the closeness of the prison, by the circumstance of the prisoners passing their time together and not being depressed in spirits. Health.

Food.—The allowance is paid in money, and is 4½*d.* per day to criminals, and 1*s.* generally to debtors. The criminal prisoners for the most part buy potatoes, herrings, meal, molasses, coffee, bread and butter; and the gaoler declares, nevertheless, that some of them save money; to one of them, he says, he paid as much as 16*s.* on his leaving the prison. Additional supplies of food, &c., from without are permitted to all the prisoners. Food.

Bedding.—The supply is irregular and often insufficient. It consists, generally, of some oose straw, a blanket or two, and a rug. Some of the prisoners, however, bring their own bedding. No clothing is furnished. Bedding.

Discipline.—Nothing exists of the nature of discipline. The prisoners get up and go to bed when they like, pass their time in idleness and in each other's society, and have often opportunities of communicating with their associates on the outside. There is no provision for mental instruction, but there is a Bible in each room, and the clergyman of the parish kindly attends on the Sunday (unless prevented by other duties) to pray with the prisoners, and address them on some moral subect. This gentleman spoke favourably of their attention and demeanour. It appears, however, from the report of the gaoler, that strong measures are sometimes necessary to compel some of the prisoners to attend the service. The usual prison offences are—obtaining supplies of whiskey, talking obscenely to the female prisoners (which can be done from the window), using abusive language to the gaoler, and calling to people on the outside. When punishment is inflicted, which does not appear to be often the case, it consists generally of confinement in a room chiefly used for refractory prisoners, and restriction to bread and water. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and no difference exists in the treatment of the males and females. Female Prisoners.

Debtors.—Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. They are required to attend public worship. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners, and they are generally confined in the same cell. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler. The gaoler says, that he examines letters when he is aware of their being sent or received. Smoking is allowed. There was no insane prisoner. Visits. Smoking.

Officers.—The only regular officer is the gaoler; but there are two burgh officers, who are required to render him some assistance. The gaoler appears to be an active and intelligent man, and was spoken highly of by all whom I consulted, and who had an opportunity of knowing how he performs his duties. It must be remarked, however, as already mentioned, that I did not find all the rooms, or all the prisoners, clean; and also, that some of the gaoler's statements were not fully borne out by subsequent investigation, although there was no serious discrepancy. I received no complaint of unkind treatment. The gaoler sleeps in the prison, but passes the greater part of the day out of it, his family living half a mile off. Gaoler.

Fees.—The only fee is one of 5*s.* from the imprisoning creditor; half of which goes to the town-clerk and half to the gaoler. Fees.

Accounts.—The town-clerk keeps a register of imprisonments, and the town-treasurer an account of expenditure. Accounts.

The following is an abstract of the expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1836. The amount is about 9*l.* more than the average for the last four years:— Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Money Allowance to Criminal Prisoners				66	0	4½
Fuel				0	4	6
Straw				0	4	0
Repairs				0	4	0
Salaries:—Keeper	25	0	0			
——— Two Assistants	8	0	0	33	0	0
Total, exclusive of the aliment of Debtors				99	12	10½

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Stranraer.

75*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* of this sum was paid by the burgh. Of the remainder, 22*l.* 18*s.* was paid by the County, for the aliment of prisoners before trial; and 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*, by the Earl of Stair, for the aliment of a poacher.

Average number of prisoners during the year 11; viz., 10 criminals and 1 debtor.

Average cost of each criminal prisoner, during the year, about 10*l.*—Daily cost about 6½*d.*

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

General observations.

General Observations.—Contamination and the fostering of habits of idleness must necessarily go in in this prison. Several prisoners return to the gaol from time to time, but there is no record to show how many. One cause probably of the deficient state of the building, and the want of proper accommodation for the gaoler, and of proper bedding, &c., for the prisoners, is the bankrupt state of the burgh, and the refusal (so I was informed) of the inhabitants to consent to any assessment.

September, 1837.

Improvements.

I recommended the following rules for the prison of Stranraer; and soon after leaving the town I received a letter from one of the magistrates, informing me that these rules had been adopted, printed, and carried into effect:—

Separation.—The prisoners to be kept separate, as far as the accommodation and security of the prison will allow.

Work.—The prisoners to be encouraged to work as far as is consistent with security; no tools being admitted which can serve as instruments of escape. The earnings to be applied in such way as the visiting magistrate may direct; the prisoner being apprised before-hand what portion he himself will be allowed to receive. No prisoner, however, to receive any part of his earnings until he has left the gaol.

Food.—Fermented liquors of every kind, and all luxuries (including tea, coffee, butter, and tobacco, in every form) are expressly forbidden; and no food to be admitted that is not of very plain quality.

Cleanliness.—Every prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning, and not to receive any portion of his daily allowance until the keeper has examined him, and satisfied himself that he has obeyed this regulation. The prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a-week at least, and the cost to be deducted from his daily allowance of money, except when the articles are washed by the prisoner's friends. Every prisoner to keep his cell, &c., constantly clean, subject to a deduction of 1*d.* per day for neglect.

Offences and Punishments.—Every prisoner who shall call to any person outside the gaol, or to a prisoner in another cell, or who shall make a loud noise of any kind, or use abusive or improper language of any kind, or obtain supplies of any description, through the windows or gratings, or who shall otherwise misconduct himself, shall be subject to a fine of 1*d.*, or confinement in a solitary cell, for each offence, provided the deductions on this or any other account, made on any one day, do not reduce the prisoner's allowance below the sum of 3*d.*; deductions beyond that sum being carried into effect on the following days. All money deducted from the allowance of the prisoners to go towards defraying the cost of the washing, bedding, &c. of the prisoners generally, but no part of it to be repaid to the prisoners, either when they leave prison or at any other time.

Visitors.—Visits to be restricted to one day in the week, viz., Friday, between the hours of two and three o'clock in the afternoon, except under peculiar circumstances, when a special order must be obtained from the Provost or the Visiting Magistrate. No visiters shall be suffered to remain more than five minutes, and the keeper is to be present during the interview. No visitor to be admitted within the cells, without a special order, to be granted only under peculiar circumstances, by the Provost, or Visiting Magistrate.

The foregoing regulations apply to females equally with males.

Exceptions.—These regulations do not extend to debtors, and the rule respecting visiters does not apply to the legal advisers of an untried prisoner, who will be admitted by written order from the Provost or Magistrate at all reasonable hours.

PORTPATRICK, WIGTONSHIRE.

Population about 2000.

Portpatrick.

A Lock-up House only.

Insecure.

Bad State.

The prison here is a mere lock-up house, but it is unfit even for that purpose. It consists of two cells, each about 10 feet square, and differing in height from about 7 to 10 feet. The building stands in one of the streets, and is only one story high: the prisoners have consequently no difficulty in obtaining supplies of whiskey, and tools to effect their escape. One common mode of exit is by a hole burrowed under the door. In winter the place must be very cold, for there are no means of warming it, and the windows are unglazed; the wall of one of the cells, too, is damp, owing to the roof being out of repair. I found the whole place dirty.

Prisoners.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit, and the officer who has the care of the place told me that there are not more than a dozen put in in the course of a year. This must be owing partly to the circumstance that most of those who are apprehended are sent on

direct to Stranraer, but chiefly to the fact that most of the offences committed here go unpunished. It appears that the county makes no provision of any kind for bedding; the gaoler said, however (though I do not know how far the statement can be relied on), that he always manages to beg some straw.

This lock-up house is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates.

Portpatrick.

Jurisdiction.

State of Crime, &c., at Portpatrick.—There appears to be a great deal of fighting, and other riotous conduct here, and a great deal of petty robbery; whilst nothing but the feeblest provision is made to restrain disorders; for the only police officer is a labourer, who receives a pittance of 5*l.* a-year, and the prison, as already seen, is quite insecure. Again, there is no resident magistrate; the only justice of the peace, in the neighbourhood, living a mile out of the town, and being necessarily occasionally absent from home. The offenders are, of course, chiefly Irish, Portpatrick being the nearest port to Ireland.

Crime, &c.

September, 1837.

WIGTONSHIRE.

Population about 36,000.

Wigtonshire.

Prisons existing and Prisons required.

Prisons existing at present.—Six; viz., a prison for criminals and debtors at Wigton, Stranraer, and Whithorn, and a small lock-up house at Newtonstewart, Glenluce and Portpatrick. All the prisons are bad.—No prisons are required at any other places, but a new one will be necessary at each of the towns enumerated.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime in Wigtonshire.—Crimes of a serious kind do not appear to be common in this county, but there seems to be a good deal of petty crime. The most serious offence that has occurred for some time, happened about a year and a half ago, when property, worth more than a thousand pounds, which had been saved from a wrecked vessel, was forcibly carried off. Though a portion of the goods was subsequently recovered, none of the offenders were ever brought to justice, it being found impossible to obtain evidence wherewith to convict them, notwithstanding there were some hundred persons engaged, either as spectators or as parties to the robbery. It is stated that there is still, unhappily, a considerable remnant in this county of the barbarous ignorance by which a shipwreck is regarded as a god-send, wherein all have a right to partake. The most common offences in this county are thefts and assaults. Forging bills of exchange, or indorsements upon them, and circulating forged bank notes, appear also to be rather common, and more so than formerly. The increase in this offence is attributed by some to the abolition of the punishment of death; though others think it is caused (so far as relates to the circulation of forged notes at least) by the increased facilities of communication with Ireland; it appearing that the notes are chiefly forged at Belfast, and there sold at a shilling a-piece. If an increase in the amount of forgery has really been caused by the substitution of a milder punishment than that of death, this, at any rate, is the first county in which I have heard of such being the case. Indeed the very reverse has been generally stated,—namely, that there is less forgery now than formerly; and that the reason of the decrease is the greater readiness which now exists to assist in the apprehension and conviction of the offenders. In addition to the crime of forgery, that of sheep-stealing is said to be on the increase; and, in what is called the Upper District of the county, crime generally is stated to have increased considerably during the last few years; though, if a period of forty or fifty years be taken, when smuggling was a general practice, and when the serious offences arising out of it were, of course, of frequent occurrence, a considerable decrease of crime is manifest.—The places in the county which appear to be distinguished for the number of offences committed, are Kirkcowen (where there are many gipsies and poachers) and Blackcraig, in the Lower District, and the parishes of Old Luce, Portpatrick, and Stoneykirk, in the Upper District. No places were mentioned as distinguished for the absence of crime. Very many of the offences are said to be committed by vagrants, and other strangers, chiefly Irish.

Forgery.

Sheep-stealing.

Police.

Police.—Though the police generally in Scotland is far from being on an efficient footing, there are few counties that are so destitute in this respect as Wigtonshire; for not only is there nothing there approaching organization, but, excepting an active sheriff's officer at Stranraer, and a man at Newtonstewart, whose chief business it is to look after vagrants, and who is paid principally by voluntary subscription, there does not appear to be a single officer in the county who can be relied on (many of them, indeed, were described as being drunken as well as useless), which is not surprising, considering that, with the exceptions just mentioned, there are none that receive more than 5*l.* a-year for their services. The Procurator Fiscal for the Lower District of the county declared, that if a heinous crime were committed in his district, he should be quite at a loss for an officer to go in pursuit of the offenders.

Legal contention.

A striking instance occurred in this county a few years ago of the inconvenience and expense arising out of the present plan of dividing the country into distinct localities for the maintenance of offenders. A claim was made by the county of Wigton for the cost of supporting a criminal lunatic, who, though he had committed his offence in Wigtonshire, belonged to a parish in Ayrshire. The claim was resisted, and the parties went to law; but the question was never decided; and after a long struggle, in which the county of Wigton spent about 700*l.* (the opposite party probably expending as much), the matter stood exactly as it did at the beginning, except that a question which had arisen in the course of the dispute, viz., whether the Crown ought not to pay for the maintenance of the prisoner, to the relief as well of the plaintiffs as of the defendants, was decided against both parties.

August, 1837.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Girvan.

A Lock-up House only.

Construction, &c.

State of the Prison.

Prisoners.

Food.

Bedding.

Gaoler.

Jurisdiction.

GIRVAN, AYRSHIRE.

Population nearly 6,000.

The prison of Girvan is used chiefly as a lock-up house, though not exclusively so, for the town being a burgh of barony, the magistrates have power of imprisoning offenders for very short periods, and this power is acted upon. The building is new, having been erected (by voluntary contributions among the inhabitants) within the last 10 years. There are 3 rooms, one above another, the lowest of which forms the first story, the ground-floor consisting of the staircase, &c. The rooms are each about 9 feet high, and vary in length from about 9 feet to 12 feet, and in breadth from about 6½ feet to 9 feet. They are apparently secure, and it was stated that there had hitherto been no escape. I found the rooms moderately clean, but only two of them are dry, and in winter they must all be cold, for the windows are unglazed, and there are no artificial means of heat. In the room that was damp there was a stench issuing from the privy; I was assured, however, that this room is scarcely ever used. It certainly ought not to be used at all.—There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that there are not more than between 20 and 30 on an average during the year; and that owing to the small number generally in confinement at one time, the prisoners are usually kept separate. The allowance for food is 4½*d.* a day to each prisoner, paid in money or in food as the prisoner chooses. Loose straw is all that is given for bedding.—The usual prison offences are swearing and using obscene language. I was assured that the prisoners never obtain whiskey through the windows, which indeed it would be rather difficult to do. When punishment is inflicted, it consists in an increase in the length of confinement.

The police-officer who has the care of the gaol (and whose house adjoins it) appeared to me to be rather dull and inert, but he is spoken highly of by the magistrates. His salary as gaoler is only 10*s.* 6*d.* a-year, together with the fee of 1*s.* on the admission of each prisoner, the latter being paid out of the fines imposed. The man has another salary, however, as burgh-officer.

A marked improvement in the peace of the town is said to have followed the building of this prison.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c., at Girvan.—I received somewhat contradictory reports as to the number of offences committed at Girvan. Upon the whole, I am inclined to believe that there are not many serious offences, but that there is a good deal of disturbance occasionally, though not much stealing. The last very serious case of tumult was about seven years ago, when there was a battle between a party of Orangemen from Maybole and the inhabitants of Girvan. Fire-arms were used, and one man was killed, the person who shot him being afterwards hanged himself for the offence. The town is said to have been remarkably quiet during the last few months, but this is attributed to slackness of trade, which has prevented people from indulging as much as usual in whiskey. This same cause, however, has added greatly to the number of beggars, and if it should continue in operation long (it is already disappearing), will probably give rise to a good deal of petty stealing.

September, 1837.

MAYBOLE, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 4,000; or, including a district of 5 miles in radius, about 12,000.

Maybole.

State of the Prison.

Escapes.

The prison of Maybole is a miserable place, consisting of a single cell, 12 feet long, 10 feet broad, and 8 feet high. There is no fire-place, and the cell is cold and ill-ventilated; and owing to its closeness it must be damp also. It is insecure too, and as a precaution against escape, it is sometimes judged necessary to handcuff the prisoners. The last instance of actual escape took place about twelve months ago, but attempts are frequently made; and from the court-room and the room above, which are often made use of as places of confinement, there have been many escapes; no fewer than 3 indeed within the last 6 months. These rooms are employed, in consequence of the necessity for keeping prisoners separate whilst the precognition is taking, and of an unwillingness to confine any one of decent character in the lower cell.

Prisoners.

Food.

Bedding.

Classification.

Gaoler.

Jurisdiction.

There was no prisoner at the time of my visit. I was told that, on an average, there are between 20 and 30 regular prisoners every year, and 50 or 60 drunken people who are confined till they are sober. The prisoners are supplied with bread and water, but it is not given in any stated quantities. Loose straw is all that is allowed for bedding. The only kind of separation regularly enforced, is that of males from females; and to effect even this, it is generally necessary to keep female prisoners in a public-house until they can be forwarded to Ayr, to which place all prisoners, except those who are confined for drunkenness, are sent as soon as their examination is completed; this prison being only a lock-up house. The gaoler is a man of various occupations and multitudinous duties, for he holds the offices of gaoler, burgh-officer, crier, lamp-lighter, and scavenger. As gaoler and burgh-officer he receives 2*l.* a-year.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Maybole.—There appears to be a good deal of petty crime here, though not more, it is thought, in proportion to the population than formerly; while of serious crimes the number is less. The chief offences at the present time are thefts and assaults; the assaults occasionally assuming the form of regular fights between the Orangemen and Catholics, who form a great portion of the population. Among the offences which were mentioned as having

become very uncommon within the last 20 years, are housebreaking, passing forged notes, and concealment of pregnancy.

Maybole.

It is stated that the thefts are committed chiefly by children between 10 and 15 years old. The assaults are of course by persons of maturer age. I could not learn how many children there are who are in the habit of stealing, but as respects assaults, I was told that there are 8 or 10 regular blackguards, some of whom are sure always to be engaged, and generally as ring-leaders. Drunkenness is stated to be the chief immediate cause of the assaults; and the offenders, including the young thieves, appear to be nearly destitute of education. The parents of the young thieves are reported to be generally of bad character themselves.

Police.

Police.—The town appears to be as badly off for police as it is for a prison. It is stated that the present officers are inefficient, and that there are no means of levying an assessment on the town for paying better ones.

September, 1837.

AYR, COUNTY PRISON.

(Third Report.)

Ayr.

I found every thing going on very satisfactorily in this prison. At my previous visit I had recommended some further alterations in the building (all of a minor character), with a view of rendering the state of the prison yet more perfect. Owing, however, to an unwillingness to incur additional expense, now that there is a prospect of the speedy enactment of a general measure for the management of the prisons of Scotland, few of these alterations have been made. One of the recommendations, however, namely, the appointment of a schoolmaster, has been carried into effect; and I find by a letter which I have just received from Captain Hamilton, convener of the gaol committee, that the person chosen is believed to be very efficient.

Schoolmaster appointed.

The average number of prisoners during the year ending 10th Jan. 1838 was 29 (23 males and 6 females); the greatest number at any one time being 42, and the least number 16. The gross expense of the prison during the year (including the purchase of some additional looms) was 427*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*; the receipts for the labour of the prisoners, 195*l.* 11*s*, 8*d.*; leaving a net expenditure of 231*l.* 12*s.* 2*d.* Thus the average cost of each prisoner during the year was not more than 8*l.*; whereas before the recent improvements were made, and when the prison was a scene of disorder and corruption, the annual expense per head was between 10*l.* and 11*l.*

Number of Prisoners.

Produce of Labour.

Health.

There was no attempt at escape in the last year, and no death. The health of the prisoners, indeed, has been surprisingly good ever since the new system was introduced. In the winter of 1836, 7, when the influenza was so general, although few families in the neighbourhood of Ayr escaped, not a single prisoner was attacked.

March, 1838.

NEWTON, FORMING PART OF AYR.

Newton.

The small prison of this burgh consists of a single room about 8½ feet square, and 9 feet high. It is old, but it is moderately secure, dry, of moderate temperature, and moderately ventilated; I found it in a slovenly state however. The place is used only as a lock-up house, and seldom even for that purpose, offenders being generally sent immediately to the Ayr prison. I was told that, on an average, there are not more than 2 or 3 prisoners during the year. Loose straw is all that is provided for bedding.

Construction, &c.

Prisoners.

This lock-up house is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of Newton.

Jurisdiction.

September, 1837.

POLICE CELLS, AYR.

Police Cells.

These cells are on the ground floor of the town-house, and are in a different part of the town from the chief prison. They are under the jurisdiction of the magistrates. The cells measure as follows:—

Cells.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	6½	5	9	300
1	9	6½	9	520

Present state.

The cells are dry and secure, and they are probably never very cold, but they are very ill ventilated. They are used chiefly for confinement during the night, and for drunken people. It is stated that, on an average, 4 or 5 persons are put in during the week. There was no one, however, at the time I was in it.

Prisoners.

Bedding.

Food.

The prisoners sleep on guard-beds and in their usual clothes. Such as are not supplied with food from without, are allowed two pennyworth of bread and a pennyworth of cheese each day. No record is kept of those who are confined, but I learned from the officers that they consist, to a considerable extent, of the same set of people.

September, 1837.

PRIESTWICK, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 1,100.

Priestwick.

Priestwick is not more than between two and three miles from Ayr, and has therefore but little need of a separate prison. That which at present exists consists of a single room, 16 feet

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Priestwick.

long, 5 feet broad, and 8½ feet high. It opens into the parish school-room, to which it forms a kind of closet; indeed, at night, the school-room itself is sometimes used as a prison. I found the place half full of coals, &c., but I was assured that it is seldom used, not being required more than three or four times in the course of a year. The room is tolerably dry, and moderately ventilated, but it must be cold in winter, for the window is not glazed, and there is no fire-place. Those confined consist chiefly of drunken people, and others convicted of trifling offences, all persons under serious charges being sent on direct to Ayr. The place is tolerably secure for the kind of offenders put in. Loose straw is given for bedding; and any prisoner detained through the day has an allowance of bread, but not in any stated quantity.

Jurisdiction. The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c. *State of Crime at Priestwick.*—There is very little crime in this place. Of the offences which are committed, small breaches of the peace and petty thefts are the most common, but there are very few even of these. It is stated, indeed, that on an average not more than two or three petty thefts take place in a year, and that there is not a single habitual offender living in the burgh.

The magistrates are well supported by the inhabitants in enforcing the laws, and the people appear to be generally educated and well disposed.

September, 1837.

MAUCHLINE, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 1,400, or, including the landward part of the parish, about 2,300.

Mauchline. This burgh was formerly bound to uphold a prison of its own, but the charter which gave the burgh a constitution, and which bound the magistrates to maintain a prison, was destroyed in the burning of the Edinburgh Registry Office about 100 years ago. The present small prison was built about 15 years since by the heritors of the parish, the cost, including that of the land, was not more than about 50*l*., but the place is not well adapted to its purposes. The building stands in a lane on the outskirts of the town, and consists of 2 cells, each 8 feet long, 7 feet broad, and 7 feet high, and containing, therefore, not more than about 400 cubic feet each. The place is insecure, owing partly to the weakness of the doors and to the means which exist for communicating with people on the outside. There was an instance of escape three or four months ago, on which occasion the prisoner picked the lock of the outer door with his fingers, the lock of the inner door being rusty and out of order. I found the prison clean, and it is tolerably ventilated, but it is sometimes very damp, and in winter it must be very cold. At the time of my visit the walls were quite wet, owing to its raining at the time, and to the roof not being slated or thatched, a brick arch covered with soil being the only protection against the weather. In consequence of the great dampness thus caused, the gaoler is often obliged to remove a prisoner to his own house during the night, putting him back again in the morning.

Site, construction, &c.

State of the Prison.

Prisoners. Those confined here are persons convicted of petty offences by the justices of the peace or the baron bailie, and offenders who have been apprehended and are about to be transmitted to Ayr. On an average, about 20 persons, I was told, are put in during the year. There appears to be no provision for feeding the prisoners or for supplying them with bedding. I do not, however, apprehend that they are ever allowed to remain without food or something to lie on; the baron bailie generally giving them some straw and a horse-cloth (as a matter of private charity), and the gaoler generally feeding them himself, and frequently, it appears, without being remunerated, the county, it is stated, refusing to pay any expense except that of conveyance to Ayr. A particular case was mentioned, in which the officer had lately had the trouble of apprehending a woman, and the cost of maintaining her for nearly two days (receiving her into his own house during the night, and getting another person to take turns with him in watching her), and all this, it was stated, without getting one farthing of remuneration. The consequence was, that on this woman appearing again in the village and committing some new offences, the officer refused to take her up, and she escaped with impunity. The man has no salary, and the baron bailie said that it was only by dint of persuasion that he was induced to act.

Food and Bedding.

No allowance by the County.

Crime, &c. *State of Crime at Mauchline.*—There is very little serious crime here now, but there is a good deal of crime of a petty kind, consisting chiefly of out-door robberies, such as robbing orchards and turnip fields, stealing potatoes, linen left out to dry, &c. A month ago the whole of the wardrobe (including about 40 shirts) of a farmer's family in the neighbourhood, was taken off at once. Some vagrants, who had been seen lurking about, were probably the offenders; and the baron bailie said there was little doubt, that, had there been a well paid and active police officer at hand, these people would have been traced and caught. As it was, they all escaped.

Upon the whole, however, there appears to be less crime here than there was 30 years ago, and less particularly during the last 12 months. For about a year ago a very expert thief, who acted as leader to a gang, died, and since his death there have been few serious offences. While this man was alive, there were frequent cases of breaking into shops and houses, and carrying off large quantities of goods, money, &c. An efficient police, however, would probably soon have apprehended the men who composed this gang, including their leader. Among the offences formerly more common than at present were mentioned forgery and passing forged notes and base coin. There has lately been an increase in the number of out-door robberies, which is attributed to the recent badness of trade.

Number and habits of the Offenders. It is reported that there are about a dozen confirmed rogues in the village. One family is said to be particularly distinguished. As a class, the offenders are noted for habits of drunken-

ness and for the want of education; and it is stated that the parents of the young offenders are for the most part of bad character themselves.

September, 1837.

CATRINE, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 2,700.

Mauchline.

Catrine.

The legal lock-up house at Catrine is a damp place under a small aqueduct for conveying water to the Catrine spinning-mills, but this lock-up house is now never used, a more suitable place (although not yet legally sanctioned) having been constructed by the proprietors of the works out of part of an old corn-mill. This latter place of confinement consists of 2 long narrow cells, each 16 feet by 4½ feet, and 6 feet in height. They are dry, moderately ventilated, and, though not warmed artificially, are probably never very cold. They are, too, tolerably secure, and I found them clean.

Old Lock-up House.

Present Lock-up house.

There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was informed that a case of imprisonment is quite a rare thing, a whole year sometimes passing without one.

Prisoners.

State of Crime at Catrine.—There is very little crime here, and very few offences of any kind, and it is reported that there is not a single person in the village who is of bad character. Indeed no person of bad character, or who is in habits of drunkenness, is allowed to remain in the mills, on which nearly the whole population of the village is directly or indirectly dependent.

Crime, &c.

The few offences which are committed are almost all by vagrants. The inhabitants of Catrine appear to be in the enjoyment of an unusual amount of comfort; they are well clad, live in neat houses (many of them their own property), and look healthy and cheerful; indeed, the only person in the village who has reason to be downcast is the medical man, who complains that he has nothing to do. It is a rule at the mills that no child shall be admitted until he can read; and it is believed that there are now few if any persons in the village, who are unable to read, and it is stated that the people are, in fact, much given to reading, as evidence of which it may be mentioned, that there are two libraries supported by the working classes, and a school library established by Mr. Buchanan (the acting proprietor of the mills) for the use of the children.

High state of Comfort.

Education.

September, 1837.

OLD CUMNOCK, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 1,700, or, including a district of 5 miles in radius, about 8,000.

Old Cumnock.

Old Cumnock is a kind of local chief town, and requires a good small prison. The present one, however, is a single cell, with a grated window opening upon the public street. There is no fire-place, and in winter the place must be very cold. It must also be insecure, owing partly to the ease with which tools, &c., can be handed in through the window. The cell is dry, but I found it in a slovenly state. It is 10 feet long, 8½ feet broad, and 7 feet high. The place is used only as a lock-up house; persons never being confined in it after conviction, even for the smallest offences. The officer who has the care of it said, he thought there were generally from 12 to 20 persons put in in the course of the year, besides many beggars who are admitted during the night as a favour. The daily allowance of food is twopennyworth of bread and a pennyworth of milk. The bedding generally consists of loose straw only. The usual prison offences are getting supplies of whisky and calling to people in the street.

Construction, &c.

Number of prisoners.

Food.

Bedding.

The prison is in the charge of a sheriff's officer, who however does not receive any salary. It is under the jurisdiction of the county justices of the peace.

Gaoler.

State of Crime at Old Cumnock.—There appears to be a good deal of petty crime here, consisting chiefly of petty thefts, robbing gardens, &c., assaults, and acts of wanton mischief, such as breaking windows, destroying trees, injuring gates, milestones, &c.

Crime, &c.

September, 1837.

NEWMILNS, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 2,300.

Newmilns.

That which is at present used as a prison at Newmilns consists of 2 small rooms in an old castle, which is the private property of the Marquess of Hastings. The dimensions of these rooms are as follows:—

Construction, &c.

Rooms.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	14	7½	8½	900
1	14	9	8½	1050

There has been no escape during the 5 years that this prison has been in use, and the place appears to be tolerably secure; it is dry, also, and probably always sufficiently warm, each room being furnished with a fire-place. It is used as a lock-up house, and as a place of confinement for petty offenders. There was no one in, however, at the time of my visit, and I was told that there are not more than about 12 during the year. For food the prisoners are allowed 4½*d.* per day each, paid in money or in kind, as they prefer. For bedding they have a mattress, or some loose straw.

Present state.

Prisoners.

Food.

Bedding.

It is stated that this prison has tended much to the suppression of crime in the town, and the preservation of the public peace.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates.

Jurisdiction.

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Newmilns.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Newmilns.—There appears to have been a great falling off of crime in this place, and there seems to be now very little crime. Of the offences which are committed, the most common are said to be petty breaches of the peace. A few years ago there was an organized band of thieves here, but it has been quite broken up. The police-officer (who has the care of the prison) was spoken highly of, as a respectable and efficient man.

September, 1837.

GALSTON, AYRSHIRE.

Population nearly 2,000.

Galston.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Galston consists of two very small cells made in the ruin of an old castle, which stands in the outskirts of the town. The following are the dimensions of the cells:—

Cells.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	11	5	6½	350
1	11	3	6	200

Present state.

The cells are dry and moderately ventilated, but they must be cold in winter (the windows are not glazed, and there are no fire-places); and I did not find them clean and orderly. The place appears to be tolerably secure, although the prisoners can haul up things from the outside.

Prisoners.

Persons are confined in this place who have been convicted of petty offences before the magistrates, or who are on their way to the prison at Ayr. It is stated that, on an average, about 20 are put in, in the course of a year, including drunken people confined for a single night, but not including beggars and vagrants allowed to sleep there as a favour. There was

Food and Bedding.

no inmate at the time of my visit. The prisoners receive sixpennyworth of bread each, during the day, and at night are allowed loose straw for bedding.

Gaoler.

Jurisdiction.

A sheriff-officer has the charge of the prison, and is paid by a fee of 1*s.* for each person put in.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the baron bailie, as representative of the Duke of Portland, the superior.

Crime, &c.

I received contradictory reports as to the state of crime in Galston. By one report there appears to be a good deal, but by the other very little.

September, 1837.

KILMARNOCK, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 22,000.

Kilmarnock.

Police Cells.

There is no other prison in Kilmarnock than that formed by 3 police-cells on the ground-floor of the town-house. These cells appear to be tolerably dry, and I found them tolerably clean, but they are ill ventilated, almost dark, and in winter they must be cold, for the apertures serving as windows are unglazed, and there are no fire places or other provision for artificial warmth. The dimensions of the cells are as follows:—

Cells.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	19½	13½	6½	1600
1	13½	9	6½	800
1	12	7	6	500

Prisoners.

There is no airing yard. The prisoners consist of persons who are detained whilst their precognition is taking with a view to their transmission to Ayr, and of offenders who have been convicted before the magistrates, the latter having power, under a local Act, to imprison for periods not exceeding ten days. Debtors are not received, Kilmarnock not being a royal burgh, and therefore not required to keep a prison for debtors. No record is kept of most of those who are confined, but it was stated that there are on an average about 12 or 15 every week, that is 600 or 700 in the year. There were 3 prisoners at the time of my visit, all males; one of them had been put in the night before, and the other two the night before that. They appeared to be tolerably clean, although there is no rule which obliges prisoners to wash themselves.

Food.

Bedding.

Bread is given for food, and it was stated that fourpennyworth per day is the least quantity allowed, and that additional supplies from without are permitted. Bedding is not supplied, the prisoners sleeping on the guard beds usually found in police cells.

Discipline.

The degree of separation is quite insufficient, even for the ends of justice, it being often necessary to put prisoners under the same charge, into the same cell. The most common prison offences are fighting and swearing. The ordinary punishment is increased length of imprisonment; corporal punishment is never inflicted. There is no female officer. No difference is made between the untried and the convicted. Visits to prisoners are generally allowed. Smoking is forbidden, but it sometimes takes place.

Visits.

Smoking.

As there is not any register of imprisonments, it is not possible to speak with certainty as to the number of recommitments, but this number appears to be very considerable, especially as regards certain offenders.

Officers.

Jurisdiction.

The prison is in the charge of the police-officers, one or other of whom is in the adjoining guard-room, both by day and by night. It is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

State of Crime at Kilmarnock.—There does not appear to be much serious crime here, but a good deal of a petty kind, the most common offences being drunken brawls, assaults, and petty thefts. A great improvement is said to have taken place during the last 5 years, that is, since the establishment of an efficient police. Before that time it was not safe, it is said, to walk about after night fall; and breaking into houses and shops, assaults with dangerous weapons, and serious thefts of various kinds, were of common occurrence. Now, however, these offences appear to be rare, and there is no danger in walking about in the night time: indeed, there seems to be an unusual degree of order and tranquillity in this town during the night. Another offence which has become less common, is that of issuing base coin. The suburb of Riccarton, however, which is out of the jurisdiction of the magistrates, appears to form an exception to some extent to this favourable report. Crime, &c.

The petty thefts are chiefly committed by boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 15 or 16, and the assaults and other breaches of the peace by young men from 20 to 30 years old. No report was made as to the number of the latter, but it is stated that there are about a dozen boys and girls who are known to be in the habit of stealing, and that there are many others who steal occasionally. Great complaint, also, is made of the illicit pawnbrokers; several of whom, it is said, are receivers of stolen goods; and no powers appears to be given by the local Act under which the magistrates hold their authority to remedy, or even to check this evil. Some of the young thieves have no parents; and in the cases where they have, it is observed that, for the most part, the parents are at least neglectful of them, whilst some are known to encourage them in their dishonesty. Few of the children have received any education. One circumstance which acts unfavourably for the absence of crime and disorder at Kilmarnock is, that there is always a considerable floating population. Age and habits of the offenders.

Police.—As already mentioned, there is is now an efficient police establishment here. It consists of 6 officers and a superintendent, with an additional force on the Saturday night. The whole cost is under 300*l.* per annum. Police.

September, 1837.

KILMAURS, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 2200.

Kilmaurs.

The prison of Kilmaurs consists of a single arched cell 15 feet long, 9 feet broad, and 6½ feet in average height, and is on the ground-floor of the town-house, the door opening into the street. The place appears to be tolerably secure, but it is rather damp, and as there are no means of warming it, it must be cold in winter. I found it in rather a slovenly state, but I was told that no one had been confined in it for more than a year. The average number of prisoners appears to be 2 or 3 in a year. Those confined consist of persons convicted of petty offences before the magistrates, and of drunken people found disturbing the peace; any one who is apprehended on a serious charge being sent on direct either to Kilmarnock or Ayr. Construction, &c. Prisoners.

I was informed that the prisoners are supplied with bread, cheese, beer, &c., but not in any stated quantities. Loose straw is all that is allowed for bedding. Food. Bedding.

The man who has the charge of the prison is old, (though he has been but lately appointed), and he lives at some distance. He seems to be but ill qualified for his duties.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Gaoler. Jurisdiction.

State of Crime.—Kilmaurs appears to be a quiet place, with very little crime. The most common offences are drunken brawls, but these even are rare, and it was reported that there is not a single habitual offender of any kind living in the burgh. Crime, &c.

September, 1837.

STEWARTON, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 3000; or including the landward part of the parish, about 4500.

Stewarton.

The only place of confinement at Stewarton is a damp, ill ventilated, and cold cell, which does not belong to the inhabitants, but is the private property of a gentleman who owns most of the village. This cell is 15 feet long, 6½ feet wide, and 8½ feet high, and contains therefore about 800 cubic feet. The place appears to be tolerably secure, although the grated aperture which serves as a window opens into a small yard, to which the public can without much difficulty obtain access. I found the cell dirty. State of the prison.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit, and I was told that there are not on an average more than 3 or 4 in the course of a year, one reason for which is the wretched state of the place itself. Most of the prisoners are drunken people who have committed some petty offence, and who are confined till they are sober. I was informed that the prisoners are allowed bread, &c., but not in any stated quantities. It appears, however, that few remain long enough to require food. Loose straw is all that is given for bedding. Prisoners. Food. Bedding.

State of Crime.—There is a good deal of petty crime here, but there appear to be few serious offences. The most common offences are petty thefts (such as robbing gardens, &c.), and acts of wanton mischief. It is stated that during the last 40 years, petty offences have increased about as fast as population, but that serious offences have diminished. Crime, &c.

It is reported that there are 2 men and 1 boy in the village who are confirmed thieves, and that there is 1 man who often breaks the peace; also that there are many others who offend occasionally. Most of the offenders are from 10 or 12 to 25 years of age, and are of dissipated Age, &c., of the offenders.

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Stewarton.

habits. Their education has generally been neglected, and many of their parents are known to be of bad character. The offenders belong chiefly to the village.

An efficient police is much wanted here. At present, most of the offences are committed with impunity.

September, 1837.

BEITH, AYRSHIRE.

Beith.

Population about 3500; or including a district of 5 miles in radius, about 12,000.

Construction, &c.

The prison at Beith consists of a single cell 6½ feet square, and 9½ feet high, and containing therefore about 400 cubic feet only. It is in a public building which serves the purpose of a town-house, and which was erected about 20 years ago by a number of the inhabitants who formed themselves into a company for that purpose, and whose property it still is. The cell is tolerably dry, and (excepting the walls) I found it tolerably clean, but there was an offensive smell in it and the place is ill ventilated. It must also be cold in winter, for there is no provision for warming it. The only escape that I heard of took place about 15 years ago, and was in consequence of the lock being out of order.

Prisoners.

The average number of prisoners was stated to be from 20 to 30 in a year, though about 3 years ago there were for a few hours as many as 15 in confinement together. Had they been kept there much longer, something approaching the horrors of the black-hole at Calcutta must I should think have ensued; although as many as 10 prisoners have actually remained through the night in this place. The class of persons confined are petty offenders (never kept, however, for more than 24 hours), and persons whose precognition is taking. No one was in at the time of my visit. There is a room (a very insecure one) where females are put, in case of there being offenders of different sexes at the same time.

Food.

Bedding.

The prisoners are supplied with bread and beer, but not in any stated quantities. Loose straw is all that is allowed for bedding.

Jurisdiction.

This prison must be considered as under the jurisdiction of the county justices of the peace.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime.—There appears to be a great deal of petty crime and disturbance here, though not much serious crime. The most common offences are assaults and petty thefts, such as robbing fields and gardens. It is stated that there are about a dozen fellows in the town who are in the habit of committing assaults and other breaches of the peace, and that there is 1 boy who is a confirmed thief. There are many others also who steal or commit assaults occasionally. Most of the offenders are from 16 to 25 years old, and are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. As a class, they are found to be below others in the same rank of life in education; and it is observed that many of their parents are of the same character as themselves. Most of the offenders belong to the village.

Police.

Police.—The only officer is an old man who is paid 8*l.* a year. An active and efficient officer is much wanted. At present most of the crime escapes detection.

September, 1837.

KILWINNING, AYRSHIRE.

Kilwinning.

Population about 3000.

Lock-up House only.

The place which serves as a lock-up house at Kilwinning is a vaulted room in the ruin of an old abbey, now the private property of the Earl of Eglinton. The building is on one side of the town, and is built on a dry sand. The room used as a prison is 20 feet long, 12 feet broad, and 8 feet high. It appears to be secure, and I could not hear of any escape having taken place. It was clean, and it seems to be dry, but it must be cold in winter, as there are no means of warming it.

Prisoners.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit, and I was told that there had not been more than about half a dozen prisoners during the 20 years the place has been in use. This, however, does not arise from the peaceable character of the town, but from the want of magistrates and a police. A wooden bedstead, without any straw upon it, is the only accommodation during the night.

Gaoler.

The prison is under the care of a sheriff-officer, who, however, is not paid anything for his trouble.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime.—Kilwinning has the reputation, and I believe, to a considerable extent, deservedly, of being a lawless place. Breaches of the peace and petty robberies are of constant occurrence. A considerable portion of the population consists of colliers; and formidable bands of these men sometimes go to the neighbouring town of Irvine, apparently for the sole object of creating a disturbance; but the respectable part of the inhabitants of that town having enrolled themselves into a regular constabulary force, the colliers are now always mastered.

Police.

Police.—There is a pressing want of a police in this town. The only officer of any kind is the sheriff-officer already mentioned, but he is not bound to act, except when he receives particular instructions from the sheriff or one of the procurators fiscal, and he states that it is of no use for him to attempt to interfere when there is a riot because he is not supported, and that, in point of fact, he does not act on such occasions. Indeed it is evident that few offences of any kind are followed by apprehension and punishment.

September, 1837.

IRVINE, AYRSHIRE.

Population nearly 8000.

The prison of Irvine forms part of the town-house, an old building standing at one end of the market-place, and completely insulated by streets. There are two rooms for debtors, and two small cells for criminals, one of these cells being quite dark. The dimensions are as follows :— Construction, &c.

Debtors' Rooms.	Length Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content Ft.
2	14	9	9	1130
Criminals' Cells.				
1	9½	9½	7	630
1	8	7	6	340

There is no airing-yard, but the debtors are allowed access to the court-room during the day. The prison is insecure, especially the criminals' cells, one of which is entirely of wood. The last escape, however, was by a debtor, and happened about three years ago. The man hid himself under the table in the court-room when the public were about to be admitted, and afterwards mixed with the crowd. There would probably be many more escapes of criminals than actually take place, were it not the practice to transmit such prisoners to Ayr as soon as possible after their apprehension. The prison is dry, and it appeared to be moderately clean; the debtors, however, complained that there were many bugs in the beds. One of the criminals' cells is miserably ventilated, and is cold in winter and hot in summer, for it has no fire-place, and is immediately under the roof, and exceedingly small. Indeed, it has the appearance rather of a closet for lumber, than of a place for the reception of prisoners. Escapes. State of the Prison.

Prisoners.—There were 4 prisoners at the time of my visit, all debtors. The average number of prisoners is about 3, although occasionally there are many more; sometimes, indeed, there are as many as 5 or 6 in the same cell. The total number of prisoners last year was 40; viz., 8 criminals, (7 males and 1 female), 31 debtors, (30 males and 1 female), and 1 revenue prisoner (a male). These are exclusive of prisoners detained only while their precognition was taken, (before being sent to Ayr) of whom no record has been kept. There is no rule to oblige the prisoners to wash themselves. Prisoners.

Health.—Reported to be generally tolerably good. This, however, would probably not be the case with the criminal prisoners, at least, did these remain long; and it should be remarked that even debtors are sometimes allowed to leave the prison (on finding security) in consequence of ill-health. No diseases were mentioned as being at all common, and there has not been any epidemic for several years. The only death during the last 10 years was by apoplexy. Health.

Food.—The allowance for food is 4½*d.* per day, generally paid in bread, and never in money. The allowance to debtors is generally from 9*d.* to 1*s.* per day. Additional supplies from without are permitted to all prisoners. Food.

Bedding.—The criminals have loose straw only; the debtors provide their own bedding. There is no supply of clothing. Bedding.

Discipline.—None exists; the criminal prisoners being generally huddled together (except that females are not put with males), and quite idle. The usual prison offences are resisting and attacking the officers, calling to female prisoners and to people in the street, and getting supplies of whiskey through the windows. There is often a great deal of struggling in getting the prisoners into the cells in consequence of the stairs being steep and narrow. In these struggles the officers are sometimes much hurt. About 18 months ago, a person on the outside handed a light into the criminal's cell, and the prisoner set fire to the straw, in the hope of burning the door. He did not however succeed in his object, and was near being suffocated.—The usual punishment for offences within the prison is increased length of confinement. Corporal punishment is never employed. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and no difference is made between females and males. Female Prisoners.

Debtors.—Here, as every where else, the number of debtors has greatly fallen off. Formerly, there were sometimes as many as 20 at the same time, but there is never any such number now, and on an average there are not above 2. Visits to debtors are freely allowed, but communication with the outside can be carried on at all times by means of the windows. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between untried and convicted prisoners; there are, however, seldom any of the latter in the gaol. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler. Letters pass unexamined. Smoking is permitted among the debtors, and it must be impossible to prevent it among the criminals, although it cannot be indulged in without danger of the building catching fire. Visits, &c.

Officers.—The gaoler is the only regular officer, but he is allowed some assistance from the burgh officers. The gaoler appears to be well qualified for his duties, and he is highly spoken of by those who have an opportunity of knowing how he discharges them. He does not reside within the gaol, but very near it. Gaoler.

Until lately there was a regularly appointed surgeon, with a salary of 4 guineas a-year, but the appointment has been abolished. Some medical man is sent for, however, when any one is ill. Surgeon.

Fees.—An imprisoning creditor has to pay 1*s.* 4*d.* when the debt is under 5*l.*, and 2*s.* 4*d.* Fees.

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Irvine.

Accounts.

when the debt is above that sum. Every debtor also who applies for an order for aliment, has to pay 5*s.* for his petition. These fees go to the town-clerk.

Accounts.—The register of imprisonments is kept by the town-clerk, but it is not according to the prescribed form, and it does not include imprisonments of offenders who are detained only while their precognition is taking. The account of expenditure is kept by the town-chamberlain. The following is a statement for the year ending 15th October, 1836. The amount is about 10*l.* greater than the average for the last 4 years.

Expenditure.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Aliment of criminals	6	16	9½
Candles		3	7
Washing		1	6
Straw		2	6
Repairs	11	19	8
Sundries		19	2
Salaries :—			
Keeper 30 0 0			
Surgeon 4 4 0			
Burgh officers (part of their salary) 2 0 0			
	36	4	0
Total, exclusive of the aliment of Debtors	56	7	2½

Average number of prisoners during the year about 4; viz., 1½ criminal, 2 debtors, and ¼ excise prisoner.

General Observations.

General Observations.—Prisoners must necessarily leave this gaol worse than when they entered it. There is no record, however, showing the number of re-commitments.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c,

State of Crime.—There appears to be a good deal of crime at Irvine, particularly crime of a petty kind. The most common offences are thefts (such as robbing shops, gardens, fields, &c.), fighting, assaults, and poaching. It is stated, however, that serious crimes are less common than formerly; the offences particularly of highway robbery, house-breaking, child-murder, and sheep-stealing, which are said to have been rather common 30 years ago, are now very rare. Petty offences in the mean time are thought to have increased about as fast as population.

Number and habits of the offenders.

It is reported that there are about 40 men and boys in Irvine who are thieves, and that there are about 30 girls who are thieves and prostitutes. Many of these offenders are members of one or other of 7 families. Besides these and other resident offenders, there are often large parties of colliers from the neighbourhood, who commit assaults and otherwise disturb the peace. Most of the offenders are between 12 and 30 years old. As a class, they are distinguished for habits of drunkenness and for want of education. The parents of the young offenders are generally of bad character themselves. It is observed that many begin their career by poaching.

Police.

Police.—Much improved of late, though not yet on a sufficient scale, there being only two regular officers. The burgesses, however, of all ranks have enrolled themselves for occasional duty; there are 10 divisions, each division having its captain, and one of the divisions is on duty every Saturday night, and at all other times when disturbance is apprehended.

September, 1837.

SALTCOATS, AYRSHIRE.

Saltcoats.

Population about 4000; or, including the neighbouring villages of Stevenson and Ardrossan, about 7000.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Saltcoats, which is a mere lock-up house, consists of a single cell about 7 feet long, 6 feet broad, and 9 feet high, and is on the first floor of the town-house, a building erected a few years ago by a number of the inhabitants, whose property it still is. The cell appears to be tolerably secure, and I heard of no escape. The place is dry also, but it was rather dirty, and in winter it must be cold, for the aperture which serves as a window is unglazed, and there are no means of warming the place artificially.

Prisoners.

I found no one in confinement, and I was told that the cell is not used more than 20 or 30 times in the year. No instance has occurred, it is said, since the place was erected, of there being a male and female prisoner at the same time. Loose straw is given for bedding, and bread, &c., for food, but not in any stated quantities.

Jurisdiction.

The prison must be considered as under the jurisdiction of the county magistrate.

Crimes, &c.

State of Crime.—It is stated that there is a great deal of petty crime here, and much of a serious kind also, and that nearly the whole escapes detection. The most common offences are assaults and thefts. Respectable female inhabitants, as well as males, are sometimes knocked down when passing along the streets. Robbing fields and gardens is of constant occurrence, and house-breaking is by no means uncommon.

Offenders.

There is a gang of about a dozen fellows at Saltcoats who commit most of the serious offences. Most of these fellows and of the other offenders in the town are reported to be between 15 and 25 years old, and to be distinguished for drunkenness and the want of education. Many of their parents are offenders themselves. It is reported that most of the

thieves are among the hand-loom weavers; that some of the sailors get into drunken brawls, but that few of them steal; but that the carpenters, masons, &c., commit very few offences of any kind. In addition to the resident offenders, there are many generally among the tramps and others who remain in the town for a short time only.

September, 1837.

LARGS, AYRSHIRE.

Population about 2000.

Largs.

The prison of Largs consists of a single cell 13 feet square and 7 feet high. It is an old building, standing on one side of the market-place. It is in every respect very ill suited for its purposes. It is so insecure, that most of the prisoners who have lately been put in have escaped: the last got away about three weeks ago. The place is damp and dirty, and there is no provision for warming it. There was no one in confinement when I visited it, and I was told that on an average there are not more than 8 or 10 prisoners in the year, although on some occasions there have been as many as 20 at one time. The prison is chiefly used for offenders committed by the baron bailie, and detained for not more than 24 hours each. Owing partly to the frequency of escapes, persons under serious charges are generally kept in a public-house until they can be sent on to Ayr. In cases of petty offences, too, when there happen to be males and females at the same time, a room in a public-house is generally hired for the females, though sometimes prisoners of different sexes are confined together.

Construction, &c.

Present state.

Prisoners.

There is no provision for supplying the prisoners with food, and they are obliged to depend on private charity. Loose straw is given for bedding.

Food.

Bedding.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of a baron bailie, appointed by Sir Thomas Brisbane.

Jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Largs.—There appears to be very little serious crime here. The most common offences are petty thefts (such as robbing fields and gardens, stealing clothes left out to dry, &c.) and drunken brawls. A great many wandering beggars come to Largs, and these, it is said, commit most of the offences.

Crime, &c.

Police.—An active officer is wanted here. No officer of any kind is provided by the county, and the only person ever employed is a man who is sometimes engaged by a few of the inhabitants.

Police.

September, 1837.

AYRSHIRE.

Population about 160,000.

Ayrshire.

Prisons existing at present—19; namely, two prisons for debtors and criminals (at Ayr and Irvine), and 17 small prisons used for criminals only, and that for very short periods of confinement, most of them being merely lock-up houses, or police cells. These prisons are at the following places,—Ayr (including Newton) Beith, Catrine, Galston, Girvan, Irvine, Kilmarnock, Kilmaurs, Kilwinning, Largs, Maybole, Mauchline, Newmilns, Old Cumnock, Priestwick, Stewarton, and Saltcoats. Most of these prisons are old and insecure. The chief prison at Ayr is now a good one, and the prisons at Girvan, Mauchline, and Newmilns, may, with some alterations, be made tolerably good; but the others must all be replaced by new ones, with the exception of the lock-up house at Newton, which may be dispensed with.

Prisons existing.

Additional Prisons wanted.—Lock-up-houses are required at Ardrossan, Dalry (population about 3,000), Muirkirk (population about 1,400, and having many iron and coal works in the neighbourhood), and at Stevenson, which contains a population of about 2,000, and where there is a good deal of crime and disorder at present. Ardrossan is within a mile of Saltcoats (as is Stevenson also, on the other side); but a small prison is necessary there, owing to the place being a seaport. Disturbances occasionally arise, and there have been several instances of the rescue of offenders who were being conveyed to Saltcoats.

Prisons wanted.

It should be remarked, with reference to the county prison at Ayr, that although it is at present found to be sufficiently large to receive the prisoners who are sent to it, yet if only one-half of the criminals now at large in the county were apprehended, the place would be filled to overflow, and the system of separation and useful employment, now in operation, would be at once destroyed. Unless, therefore, an outlet were provided by which prisoners, beyond a certain number, could be sent to a penitentiary or some other prison, it would become necessary, in the event of an efficient police being established, to enlarge the present building.

State of Crime in Ayrshire.—There is a good deal of crime in this county, the offences consisting chiefly of thefts and assaults. Serious offences, however, though still rather common, in some parts of the county, appear on the whole to have declined considerably; and the increase in petty offences does not seem to be at all greater than is warranted by the increase in population. In some places, indeed, there has evidently been a decrease in petty offences. Highway robbery is mentioned as one crime which, though now very rare, was rather common twenty or thirty years ago. At the present time, if we except two or three places in the northern part of the county, there is very little robbery accompanied with personal violence, and but little house-breaking. Forgery, however, is rather common, as is the concealment of pregnancy, followed by the death of the infant.

Crime, &c.

Most of the thefts are committed by young persons between the ages of 12 and 20. The offenders are generally distinguished for habits of drunkenness. Many of their parents are

Habits of the Offenders.

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Ayrshire.

known to be of bad or loose character; and as a class, the offenders are found to be below others in the same rank of life in education. The colliers, as a body, commit many more than their share of the offences; as do the Irish part of the population.

The following places are reported as distinguished for the number of offences committed in them:—Ayr, Beith, Girvan, Kilmarnock, Kilwinning, Maybole, Stewarton, Saltcoats, and Stevenson; and among these, Kilwinning, Saltcoats, and Stevenson appear to be the worst.

The following places are said to be peculiarly exempt from crime and offences,—Catrine, Dunlop, Fenwick, Kilmaurs, Ochiltree, Priestwick, and Tarbalton.

Police.

Police.—There is a great want of an organized and efficient police in this county. Kilmarnock and Irvine are the only two places at which anything like a good police exists.

September, 1837.

GREENOCK, RENFREWSHIRE.

Population upwards of 30,000.

(Second Report.)

Greenock.

I visited this prison again in September last. The prison is so old and ill-constructed that none but minor and temporary improvements can be made in it; but I found every disposition in the magistrates to make such immediate improvements as, under all circumstances, I could

Improvements.

recommend. A provision has, in consequence, been made for carrying off the refuse water of the prison; several suits of clothes have been procured for the use of such prisoners as may be received with either finery or rags upon them; visits are restricted to one day in the week, and to a particular time in that day, and a register is kept of the names, places of abode, &c. of all visitors; and a sick list has been opened.

I made some further recommendations, and I find by a letter received from the Town Clerk, a few days ago, that the Magistrates are only waiting for an opportunity to carry these also into effect.

Error in last Report.

In my last report on the prison of Greenock, it is stated, that "whipping is occasionally resorted to, though very seldom." This, I find is a mistake; the only instances of whipping, or rather corporal punishment, being those which occur in obedience to the sentence of the court of justice, in commutation of imprisonment, and not, as would appear from my report, for offences committed within the prison.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Greenock.—There appears to be a great deal of crime and disturbance here, though not much of a very serious kind. The amount is said to have increased during the last thirty years, about as fast as population. The most common offences are petty thefts and assaults. It is reported that there are at present about 100 boys and girls, and about 30 young men, and 20 women, who often steal. Also, that there are about 60 prostitutes, most of whom frequently steal. There are many Irish who commit assaults, but who do not steal, though generally, it is said, the thieves and disturbers of the peace are one and the same class.

Number and habits of the offenders.

It is stated that there are about 40 dealers in second-hand articles who act also as receivers of stolen goods. From 20 to 30 of the thieves are reported to be confirmed offenders, who live entirely by their robberies. The offenders, as a class, are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. The Procurator Fiscal lately examined into the origin of 20 offences, taken indiscriminately, and in 19 of them he traced it to whiskey. Many of the offenders have been brought up to no regular occupation, and are found to be below others, in the same rank of life, in education. Their parents are almost always drunken and dissipated. There is a large floating population at Greenock, and those who form it commit many of the offences.

Police.

Police.—Improved of late, but still on too small a scale to be efficient.

PORT GLASGOW, RENFREWSHIRE.

Port Glasgow.

Population (including the sailors in the Port) about 7000.

Construction, &c.

The prison at Port Glasgow forms the back part of the Town-house, which was built about twenty years ago, and which stands near the quay. It consists of five cells for criminals, and one room for debtors, all on the upper flat, the gaoler's house being beneath. The cells and room are of the following dimensions:—

Criminal's Cells.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	12¼	6	10	750
3	9	7	10	630
1	8	8	10	640
Debtors' Room.				
1	16	9	10	1440
6				

There is no airing yard. The prison appears to be tolerably secure, although the floor and partitions are all of wood. The only instance of escape since the place was built, occurred about 18 months ago, and was in consequence of the gaoler having, by an act of forgetfulness

Present state.

(very different, it is said, from his usual conduct) left the door open. The prison is dry, and I found it clean; but it is ill ventilated, and in winter must be cold, for the debtors' room is the only one which is warmed in any way, and, in certain states of the wind, it is impossible to light a fire even there. It should be remarked, too, that a fire can never be lighted without some risk to the whole building, owing to there being so much wood about it.

Prisoners.—Both debtors and criminals are received here, but the latter are usually kept for short periods only, offenders who are to undergo a long imprisonment being sent to the county gaol at Paisley. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that there seldom is one. The register of imprisonments had not, however, been made up for a considerable time, owing to the illness and death of the keeper, so that I could not obtain exact information on this point.

Prisoners.

Health.—The health of the prisoners is reported to be generally good. The most common complaints are disorders of the bowels and catarrh; the latter being brought on occasionally by the bad state of the chimney in the debtors' room. There has been no epidemic for several years. The only deaths that have occurred since the prison was built, were those of an old man who had been much reduced before he came in, and of a boy who strangled himself about a year and a half ago.

Health.

Food.—Each prisoner is allowed six pennyworth of food every day. The food is purchased by the gaoler, but I was assured that he is not permitted to make any profit by it. The debtors are generally allowed 1*s*, a day each.

Food.

Bedding.—Each prisoner has a hammock, a rug, and a blanket, and in winter two blankets. I found all the bedding clean.—No clothing is supplied.

Bedding.

Discipline.—Little discipline is maintained. There is no kind of labour, and owing to the thinness of the partitions the prisoners can always communicate, even though put into different cells, which is seldom done unless the offence be serious. From one of the cells communication can be kept up with persons on the outside, and whiskey has consequently been introduced, but I was told that this cell is now never used, on account of this evil. It is said that the prisoners behave tolerably well, and that punishment is seldom resorted to; corporal punishment being never employed.

Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—Females are always kept separate from males, but for the reasons given, it must be impossible to prevent the two classes from conversing. There is no regular female officer, but the gaoler's wife acts as such one to some extent.

Female prisoners.

Debtors. As already mentioned, there is seldom a prisoner of any kind, and therefore seldom a debtor. Debtors generally use the prison bedding. Visits from their friends and supplies of food from without (excepting spirits), are freely allowed.

Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler. No instance is remembered of a letter being sent or received. Debtors are allowed to smoke but criminals are not.

Visits, &c.

Officer.—The present gaoler has been in office only a few weeks. I did not see him as he was out of town, but from what I heard, I suppose him to be tolerably well qualified for his duties. A medical gentleman is sent for when a prisoner is ill, but he has hitherto acted gratuitously.

Gaoler.

Surgeon.

Fees.—The gaoler makes a claim to twopence per day from every debtor for the time he is in prison. The town clerk receives a fee of 5*s*. for drawing up a debtor's petition for aliment; but the debtor may, if he choose, employ another person.

Fees.

Expenditure.—The expenditure for the year ending 26th Sept., 1836, was as follows:—

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Gaoler's salary	30	0	0
Washing	0	11	10
Food, about	6	0	0
	£36	11	10

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Port Glasgow.—There is very little crime of any kind here, and much less than there was during the war. Of the few offences which are committed, drunken brawls are said to be the most common. These are chiefly among the Irish part of the population, and proceed almost entirely from drunkenness. Petty thefts are chiefly committed by children from 10 to 14 years old, the offspring, usually, of bad parents. The offenders are generally deficient in education.

Crime, &c.

September, 1837.

POLLOCKSHAWS, RENFREWSHIRE.

Population about 5000.

The prison of Pollockshaws consists of a single small cell only. It is used merely as a lock-up house, but it is quite inadequate even for that purpose. The cell is in the town-house, and is 8½ feet long, 4 feet broad, and 9½ feet high; its cubical content therefore is not more than about 320 feet. The place is not secure, for the ceiling is of wood, and the window opens upon the street, whence things can be handed in. The last escape was about 6 years ago. The gaoler at that time was an old man, and the prisoners, three in number, forced their way by him and got off.

Construction, &c.

I found the cell tolerably clean, but I learnt that it is often dirty. The ventilation too is but indifferent, and there are no means of warmth. The window too is unglazed.

Present state.

Prisoners.—There was no prisoner at the time of my visit. The average number in the

Prisoners.

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Pollockshaws.

Food and bedding.

Gaoler.

course of a year appears to be from 30 to 40, but no register is kept. The prisoners seldom stay more than a few hours or a night, being sent on as soon as possible to Paisley.

Food and Bedding.—The allowance of food is two penny worth of bread *and a bottle of porter* three times a day. The total cost is about 10½*d.* Loose straw is all that is provided for bedding, though the gaoler's wife, I was told, sometimes adds a coverlet.

Officer.—The cell is in the charge of a sheriff's officer, who, however, is not allowed any thing for his trouble.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Improvements.

I could suggest but little in the way of temporary improvement in this prison, the place being so very unsuitable to its purposes. I did, however, make the following recommendations, and I have received a letter from the town clerk informing me, that with the exception of the first, they have all been carried with effect:—

1st.—An additional cell to be fitted up if one can readily be provided.

2nd.—The present cell to be lime-washed immediately; and henceforward to be lime-washed regularly twice a-year.

3rd.—The cell to be kept constantly clean.

4th.—The window to be glazed; but to be opened frequently for the sake of ventilation.

5th.—A mattress and blankets to be provided as bedding for the prisoners; to be removed from the cell, however, during the day.

6th.—Fermented liquors of every kind and smoking to be prohibited.

7th.—Every prisoner who shall misconduct himself in any way to pay a fine of a penny, or to lose a meal.

8th.—The gaoler to keep a record of all offences and punishments.

9th.—The gaoler to be paid a small salary.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Pollockshaws.—There is much crime both in the town and immediate neighbourhood, and a good deal of it escapes detection. The most common offences are breaches of the peace and thefts. Highway robbery, however, is by no means rare.

Age, &c., of the offenders.

Most of the offenders are reported to be from 16 to 30 years old, and to be distinguished by habits of drunkenness. It is stated, however, that the parents of several of them are of good character. Many of the offenders are resident inhabitants, but many are Irish, and many belong to Glasgow. It is reported that there are ten persons now in the town of very bad character, and that many others have lately absconded because they were aware that warrants were out against them. There are also 40 or 50 people of suspicious character. Most of the offenders are males.

Police.

Police.—The only man at present employed is the sheriff's officer already mentioned. He appears to be intelligent and efficient, but he requires support. He receives no remuneration from the burgh, and is not paid by any one for apprehending offenders in it, unless he has afterwards to take them to Paisley.

December, 1837.

RENFREWSHIRE.

Renfrewshire.

Population about 140,000.

Existing prisons.

Prisons existing at present.—Five, viz., a gaol and house of correction (forming one building) at Paisley; prisons for debtors and criminals at Greenock, Port Glasgow, and Renfrew; and a lock-up house at Pollockshaws.

Prisons required.

Prisons required.—New prisons are necessary at Greenock and Pollockshaws, and alterations must be made in all the others. A new small prison also is wanted at each of the following places:—

Johnstone.—The population of this town is about 6,000, and there is an additional population of about 2,400 at Kilbarcham, 2 miles beyond. Johnstone itself is about 3 miles from Paisley.

Barrhead.—The population of Barrhead is about 3,000, and there is a population of about 1,200 at Neilston, a mile beyond. Barrhead is 3½ miles from Paisley.

Gourock.—The population is about 1,500 in winter, but is supposed to be nearly 3,000 in summer. Gourock is upon the Clyde, about 3 miles below Greenock.

Lochwinnoch.—The population is about 2,700. There are several cotton mills. This place is about 3 miles from Beith in Ayrshire.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime.—There appears to be much crime in this county; the offences consisting chiefly of thefts and assaults. Housebreaking also is common, though seldom or never accompanied by personal violence. It is stated that there has been a great decrease in the number of murders and highway robberies within the last 30 years, but it is said that the number of petty thefts has increased, and that beyond the increase of population. The places most distinguished for crime in Renfrewshire are reported to be Paisley, Greenock, Neilston, and Pollockshaws.

Age, &c., of the offenders.

Most of the offenders are said to be from 10 to 20 years old. Drunkenness is looked upon as the chief cause of crime in this county. The procurator fiscal at Greenock having taken 20 cases indiscriminately, and examined into their origin, found that 19 of them arose from whiskey. Many of the offenders have no knowledge of a trade, and many of their parents are

known to be of bad character. The offenders are generally found to be ill-educated—more so than others in the same rank of life. Indeed, in this respect, they appear to be inferior to their predecessors 30 years ago, for the sheriff-substitute at Paisley states, that at that period more who came before him could write than can now. This want of education is particularly noticed among the Irish, who constitute a considerable portion of the offenders, and whose number in the county has greatly increased of late years, a fact which probably explains the apparent falling off in education among the poorest class.

An estimate of the criminal population of Paisley has already been given. [See Second Report, page 115.] The following is an estimate of the criminal population of Greenock:— About 20 or 30 thieves who live entirely by stealing; about 60 prostitutes, most of whom often steal; and about 20 drunken women, besides the prostitutes who are addicted to stealing. About 30 young men (who associate with the prostitutes) and about 100 boys and girls, who often steal. There are also about 40 receivers of stolen goods, whose avowed occupation is dealing in second-hand articles. There are many among the Irish who commit assaults but who do not steal, but generally speaking, the thieves and brawlers are found to form the same class. It is remarked that the thieves run very much in families. Criminal population of Greenock.

Police.—There is a great want of a good police in this county. Police.

December, 1837.

CRIEFF, PERTHSHIRE.

Population about 5000.

Crieff.

The prison of Crieff is used as a lock-up house only. It consists of a single cell 20 feet long, 15 feet broad, and 8 feet high, on a level with the street, and under a room formerly used as a guard house. The prison is old and insecure. The last instance of escape occurred about 4 years ago. There being only one room, males and females are sometimes confined together; occasionally, however, when the offence is trifling, the female is set at liberty to avoid this evil. Construction, &c.

The prison is tolerably dry and moderately ventilated. There are no means of warming it, however, and in winter it must be very cold. I found the place in rather a slovenly state, there being a heap of coals in it. Present state.

There was no prisoner at the time of my visit. I was told, however, that there are on an average at least 3 or 4 every week, and that there would be many more if there were proper accommodation. At present all offenders sentenced to confinement, however short the period, must be sent to Perth, a distance of 17 miles. Many of the prisoners are deserters. Prisoners.

There is no provision for feeding the prisoners, although they sometimes remain a whole day in confinement. It appears, however, that the gaoler generally gives them some food himself, for which he is sometimes, though not always, paid by the burgh. Food.

The bedding consists of a straw mattress, 2 blankets, and a pillow. The blankets are washed once a-year. Bedding.

The gaoler looks like a respectable man, and is apparently well qualified for his duties. Gaoler.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the county justices of the peace. Jurisdiction.

State of Crime at Crieff.—There appears to be a great deal of crime here, consisting chiefly of thefts and assaults. Among the thefts, stealing poultry is particularly common. Very many of the offences escape detection. The amount of crime is said to be on the increase; which is partly accounted for by the great extent of drunkenness in the town. Crime, &c.

There are 27 males and 15 females in Crieff, who are looked upon as habitual offenders; namely, 9 males who steal and commit assaults (7 of whom poach also); 14 who poach and commit assaults and who are suspected of stealing also; and 4 who poach, but who do not commit any other offences. All of these are between 16 and 30 years old. Of the females, 13 are thieves, and are between the ages of 16 and 32; and 2 (from 50 to 60 years old) are receivers of stolen goods. Offenders.

All these offenders are reported to be "great drinkers of ardent spirits." Many of the offenders commence their career by poaching. The parents are generally as bad as themselves. Most of the offences are committed by resident inhabitants, though many are committed by vagrants and highlanders who have been turned out of their crofts and who have obtained a settlement in the town. Drunkenness.

State of the Police.—Quite inefficient. The only man on duty is one who is hired to look after vagrants. Before he was appointed (6 years ago) the town was overrun by beggars, many of them sturdy ones. Two or three resident justices of the peace are much wanted. The procurator fiscal is at present often obliged to send 3 miles to get a warrant signed for the apprehension of an offender. Police.

October, 1837.

BATHGATE, LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

Population nearly 3000.

Bathgate.

Part of the prison of Bathgate is very old, but part is new, having been built within the last 7 or 8 years, on the town being raised into a burgh of regality. In the new part there are 2 cells and a small room, but in the old part there is nothing but a single cell. The dimensions are as follow:— Construction, &c.

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
New part.				
2	9	8½	8	600
1	16	10	6½	1000
Old part.				
1	9½	9½	8	720

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Reports on Separate Prisons.

Bathgate.

In the new part the 2 cells are on the ground floor, the room being above them. The doors in this part of the building open into a small court, from which the public are excluded; but the door of the old cell opens into the public street. It should be remarked, however, that this old cell is now seldom used. The 2 cells in the new part are damp (one of them very much so), and there are no means of warming them; moreover, the apertures serving for windows are unglazed. The room above, however, is comfortable and has a fire-place.

Prisoners.

There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that there are not on an average, more than 20 or 30 during the year, and that these consist chiefly of deserters. Offenders are sometimes detained in this small prison for more than a month, though no record is kept of any of them. Debtors even have occasionally been confined here, though I much doubt the legality of their detention.

Food.

Bedding.

The prisoners are allowed 4*d.* a day each for food, the sum being paid in money. The bedding consists of loose straw and blankets. Some of the blankets were dirty, and in this respect they resembled the keeper. The prison too was in a slovenly state, and the immediate neighbourhood disgustingly filthy. The salary given to the gaoler is a guinea a-year, and a fee of 1*s.* on the admission of each prisoner, and 4*d.* a night during his stay.

Jurisdiction.

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the burgh magistrates.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Bathgate.—There does not appear to be a great deal of crime here now, although till within the last few years, the amount seems to have been very considerable. It is reported that there are 10 or 12 habitual offenders at the present time, and that their offences consist chiefly of assaults. These offenders are all in habits of drunkenness.

November, 1837.

LINLITHGOW, LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

Population about 3100; or, including the whole parish, about 5000.

Linlithgow.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison of this town, which serves for the county also, is a very bad one. It forms the lower story of the town house, and is in a public situation on one side of the main street. The building is old, but the part above the prison appears to be in good condition. There are altogether 6 rooms or cells, although, generally speaking, 2 only are used, namely, 1 for debtors and 1 for criminals. Except as regards the facility of communication with the street, the debtors' room is a tolerably good one, but that for the criminals is in every respect objectionable, being ill-ventilated and almost dark. Of the remaining rooms and cells, the best for comfort and cleanliness, is the second debtors' room, but this room is insecure, and is therefore but seldom used. One of these cells is tolerably suitable in summer, but as there is no provision for warming it, and the window is unglazed, it is too cold to be occupied in winter, although I in fact found a prisoner in it in that season of the year. The door of one of the other two cells opens directly into the street, and the window also being quite accessible, this cell is not secure place of confinement, and is never used except when the prison is crowded. The remaining cell is used only for refractory prisoners, or persons received in a state of drunkenness. This cell, however, is too damp to be a proper place of confinement for offenders of any kind. The doors of most of the rooms and cells open into a kind of hall or lobby, in which the prisoners are allowed to walk during the day. The dimensions of the different parts of the prison are as follows:—

Debtors' Rooms.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	21	11½	10	2400
1	15	12	10	1800
Criminals' Cells.				
1	21	11	10	2300
1	14	10	12	1700
1	10½	10½	12½	1400
1	14½	11	14	2200
6				

Present state.

With the exception of the cell for the refractory, the whole of the prison appears to be dry, but most parts of it are ill ventilated. Two of the rooms are warmed by open fires; and as the floors are of wood, there must be some danger of the building being set fire to. The other parts of the prison are not warmed in any way. I found most of the rooms tolerably clean, although the bed-clothes were very dirty. I learned from the medical gentleman, however, who is kind enough to attend the prisoners gratuitously, that the cell usually occupied by the criminals is generally dirty, and that the bed-clothes are almost always in the state in which I found them.

Insecurity.

The prison is insecure, though less so than formerly. The last escape took place about 4 years ago; but an attempt, which was very nearly successful, was made within the last month. On this occasion some of the prisoners succeeded in removing the stones from part of the wall, until they were within a few inches of the outside, when their operations were detected by the gaoler.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There were 6 prisoners (all males) at the time of my visit; namely, 4 criminals and 2 debtors. The average number is about 8. The total number of prisoners last year was 74; viz., 67 criminals (64 males and 3 females) and 7 debtors (6 males and 1 female). The 4 criminals were waiting for trial, one of them having been in confinement several months. I found some of the prisoners rather dirty, and it appeared that there was no regulation requiring them to wash themselves at stated times.

Health.

Health.—The medical gentleman already referred to, stated, that although the health of the prisoners certainly falls off during their confinement, it is upon the whole tolerably good; which

to me is almost unaccountable considering the state of the gaol. Perhaps, however, the general salubrity of the town of Linlithgow may in some measure be the explanation. The most common complaints were stated to be disorders of the bowels and slight febrile attacks. The only deaths that have occurred for several years, are those of a man and a woman who hanged themselves 3 or 4 years ago.

Food.—The allowance to criminal prisoners is 4*d.* a day, paid in money. Debtors generally receive from 8*d.* to 15*d.* per day. Additional supplies from without are permitted to all prisoners. Food.

Bedding.—Loose straw and a rug or blanket.—No clothing is supplied. Bedding.

Discipline.—There is no kind of discipline. The prisoners get up and go to bed when they choose, are never set to work, receive no instruction, and pass their time in each other's bad company. Public worship is sometimes performed, though seldom. I could hear of no offences that are common among the prisoners, though I should think it almost certain that they frequently obtain supplies of whiskey. The usual punishment is confinement in a separate cell. Corporal punishment is never employed. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and the females are not in any way distinguished from the males, except that the two classes are kept apart during the night. Females.

Debtors.—On an average there was only 1 debtor last year. Debtors supply their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed on an order from a magistrate; and sometimes without any order. Letters are read by the gaoler. Smoking is permitted. There is no provision for sending prisoners back to their parishes. Visits, &c.

Officers.—There is a head gaoler and an under gaoler. The house of the head gaoler adjoins the prison, but the under gaoler lives at some distance. Both officers were spoken well of by those who have had an opportunity of observing them. Till within the last 2 or 3 years, however, a drunken fellow had the care of the gaol, and he was not displaced until the Court of Justiciary interfered. Officers.

Fees.—The only fee existing at the present time, is one of 2*s.* from the imprisoning creditor on the admission of a debtor. There were other fees, but they were abolished about a year ago. Fees.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, according to the prescribed form. It is neat and apparently accurate. The account of Disbursements is kept by the town treasurer. The following is a statement of the expenditure for the year ending 4th October, 1837:— Accounts.

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Money-allowance to criminal prisoners	37	12	8
Bedding	1	5	6
Straw	3	14	8
Washing	0	12	0
Repairs	1	15	0
Sundries	2	0	0
Salaries:—			
Head gaoler, including 3*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* for clothing £30 6 2			
Under gaoler, including 3*l.* 6*s.* 2*d.* for clothing 22 6 2			
	52	12	4
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors	£99	12	2

(Of the above sum 18*l.* 17*s.* was paid by the county, for the aliment of prisoners after conviction. The remainder, 80*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* was paid by the burgh.)

Average number of prisoners during the year 8; namely, 6¾ criminals, and 1¼ debtors.

Average cost of each criminal prisoner during the year about 13*l.* Daily cost about 8½d. Cost per head.

General Observation.—Every prisoner must necessarily leave this gaol worse than he entered it. For want of a proper record, however, it cannot be stated in how many instances prisoners return. General observation.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. The magistrates appear to be fully alive to the demoralizing state of their gaol; but owing to the town being much in debt, and to their having no power of assessment, they have been unable to apply a remedy. Jurisdiction.

November, 1837.

I recommended the following rules, &c., for the temporary improvement of this prison; and the accompanying remarks by the provost shew to what extent these rules have been carried into effect:— Improvements.

	Remarks.
1. *Admittance of a prisoner.*—Every prisoner on his admittance to be carefully examined, that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, and whether he has any thing in his possession unsuitable to a prison, as knives, files, &c. The prisoner then to wash himself from head to foot, and his hair to be cut if necessary.	Fully complied with.
2. *Separation.*—The debtors to be confined in the upper room, so as to allow of the prisoners being divided into at least two classes. In summer,	Not yet acted on: from a dread that prisoners might contrive to escape from the upper room.

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	Remarks.
too, the eastern cell can be used, by which a still further degree of separation may be obtained.	
3. *Work.*—The prisoners to be encouraged to work, and to be allowed one-half of their clear earnings.	The prisoners have been encouraged to work, and some of them have availed themselves of such permission.
4. *Food.*—A list to be made of the kinds of food to be admitted, and none to be entered that are not of the plainest quality. Beer and fermented liquor of every kind, and all other luxuries, such as tea, coffee, sugar, butter, tobacco, &c., to be forbidden.	The forbidden articles of food have been carefully excluded from the gaol.
5. *Fires.*—Fires to be permitted only when necessary from the state of the weather.	This recommendation has been and will be attended to.
6. *Cleanliness.*—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning: and not to receive any part of his daily allowance until he has obeyed this regulation. Each prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a-week.	Strictly attended to.
7. *Punishments.*—Every prisoner who shall call to any person outside the gaol, or to a prisoner in another cell, or who shall make a noise of any kind, or who shall use abusive or other improper language, or who shall misconduct himself in any other respect, shall be subject to a fine of 1*d.*, provided that the prisoner's allowance for food in any one day be not reduced lower than 3*d.* The gaoler to keep a book, in which he shall enter every offence committed, and to carry this book to the provost or visiting magistrate every day that an entry is made.	There has yet been no occasion to enforce this regulation.
8. *Visits.*—Visits to untried prisoners to be restricted to one day in the week: viz., ———— between the hours of — and —. Visits to convicted prisoners to be in like manner restricted to once a month: viz., the first ———— in each month between the hours of —and —.	Attended to by the gaoler.
The foregoing regulations to apply to females equally with males.	
Exceptions.—The regulations do not extend to debtors; and the rule respecting visitors does not apply to the legal adviser of an untried prisoner.	
9. *Sundry Recommendations.*—The whole of the prison to be lime-washed immediately, and henceforward to be lime-washed regularly twice a-year.	The prison was white-washed without loss of time, and will be white-washed again as soon as the weather will permit.
10. The bed-clothes to be washed immediately, and in order that they may be kept clean in future, and the prisoners prevented from lolling on their beds in the daytime, the bed-clothes to be henceforth removed from the cells every morning, and put into a press, to be placed in the hall.	The bed-clothes are removed from the cell during the day, but the press, though ordered, has not yet been put up.
11. Smoking to be forbidden to all prisoners, whether criminals or debtors.	Smoking has been forbidden.

The provost adds, "I am happy to say that these regulations, so far as enforced, have been attended with the best consequences."

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Linlithgow.—There does not appear to be much crime here, but there is a good deal of disturbance generally on the Saturday night and on the Sunday, owing to intoxication. The most common offences are assaults and thefts. The amount of crime, &c., appears to be about stationary. I could learn nothing definite as to the number of habitual offenders, owing to the want of a proper police.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

Population about 23,500.

Linlithgowshire.

Existing Prisons.

Prisons existing at present.—Three; viz., a prison for criminals and debtors at Linlithgow, a burgh prison for criminals at Bathgate, and a lock-up house at Queensferry. They are all bad.

Prisons required.

Prisons required.—A good small prison is wanted at each of the foregoing places, and at Borrowstownes also, a village about 4 miles from Linlithgow, containing a very poor and disorderly population of about 2000 (including those in the immediate neighbourhood), and having some collieries near it.

Crime &c.

State of Crime.—For want of a proper police in this county it is difficult to obtain clear

evidence as to the amount of crime. There is no doubt, however, that in some parts of the county there is a good deal of crime of a petty kind, although most of it at present passes by without detection and punishment. The places reported as distinguished for the number of offences committed, are Borrowstones, Blackburn, and Whitburn. The most common offences in this county are assaults and thefts. As a class, the offenders are distinguished for habits of drunkenness: drunkenness indeed, appears to be the chief source of the offences. Some of the offenders are strangers, but most of them are resident inhabitants.

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FALKIRK, STIRLINGSHIRE.

Population about 7000; or, including a district 5 miles in radius, about 25,000.

Construction. The prison of Falkirk forms part of a tower, on which stands the town spire. The tower and spire were built about 25 years ago, but the prison, as it now exists, was fitted up within the last three years. There are only two rooms, each being 14 feet square and 9 feet high. The place is insecure, though it has been somewhat strengthened lately. Three prisoners have escaped within the last three months; the last escape having been effected the very day after the previous one.

Present state. The rooms are dry, but they are ill ventilated. They are warmed by stoves, and there does not appear to be much danger of the building catching fire, as the floors and ceilings are covered with sheet iron. I found both of the rooms moderately clean.

Prisoners. *Prisoners.*—There was no prisoner at the time of my visit. The average number, I was told, is 3 or 4: but no register has hitherto been kept. Criminal prisoners only are admitted, and these for periods not exceeding 60 days.

Health. *Health.*—The health of the prisoners was stated to be generally tolerably good. There has been no death since the place was brought into use.

Food. *Food.*—The allowance for food is four-pence per day, paid in money. Additional supplies of food from without, including ale and porter, are permitted.

Bedding. *Bedding.*—A straw mattress, a double blanket, and a rug. The blankets were rather dirty. No clothing is supplied.

Discipline. *Discipline.*—None exists. There is no work, and the only separation is that of males from females. The most common offence appears to be shouting and calling to people in the street. The only punishment employed is putting the offender in irons.

Females. *Female Prisoners.*—There is no female officer, and no difference is made in the treatment of males and females.

Visits, &c. *Miscellaneous.*—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler; but it was stated that visitors are not permitted to enter the cells. It was said that there has been no instance of a prisoner asking for leave to send or receive a letter.

Smoking. Smoking is allowed.

Gaoler. *Officer.*—The gaoler looks like a respectable man, and I was assured that he is trustworthy, but I was told that he is dull and slow. Little, however, ought to be expected for the salary given, which is only 10*l.* a year.

Fees. *Fees.*—None of any kind.

Accounts. *Accounts.*—As already mentioned, there has hitherto been no register of imprisonments. The account of disbursements is kept by the procurator fiscal of this district of the county.

Jurisdiction. *Jurisdiction.*—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the sheriff of the county.

Crime, &c. *State of Crime at Falkirk.*—It was reported that there is a good deal of crime here, the offences consisting chiefly of petty thefts and assaults, though the latter appear to have decreased very much of late. It was said that there are at present about 20 habitual thieves in the town (most of them very young) and about 20 riotous fellows. It has been remarked that the parents of the thieves are generally themselves of bad character; and it was stated that the offenders are, as a class, below others in the same rank of life in education.

Police. *Police*—A regular and efficient police is much wanted, both in the burgh and county. After suffering a good deal from robberies, some of the inhabitants lately formed themselves into a night-guard, and succeeded in apprehending six thieves, who it appeared had been the chief parties concerned.

Places distinguished. It was stated that the place most distinguished in this district of the county for offences is Carron, where there are many assaults, arising almost entirely from drunkenness. Grangemouth, on the other hand, was reported as the most quiet and orderly place in the district.

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INVERARY, ARGYLLSHIRE.

Population about 1100.

Site, construction, &c. The prison of Inverary consists of 5 small rooms in the back part of the town-house, for debtors and revenue prisoners, and of a detached building, containing 8 cells and a day-room

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Site, construction, &c.

for criminals. This latter building was originally designed for debtors, and it was intended to put up another building for criminals; but the cost of this portion of the prison and of the court-rooms and offices having considerably exceeded the anticipated amount, the county would not consent to incur any further expense, and the building was stopped. This was about 20 years ago. The prison, including the part which is detached, stands at the back of the town-house, and is so close to the sea side as to be rendered damp. The dimensions of the rooms and cells are as follows:—

DEBTORS' ROOMS.

Rooms and Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
1	16¾	12	8¾	1750
1	12	10	,,	1050
1	17½	12	,,	1800
1	12	6¾	,,	700
1	12	11½	,,	1200

CRIMINALS' CELLS.

1	8	8	8	500
2	10	8	,,	640
1	10¾	8	8½	730
1	8	8	,,	540
2	10½	8	,,	700
1	11	8	,,	750
1	22¼	10½	8	1950
14				

Present state.

There is an airing-yard in which debtors and revenue prisoners are allowed to walk, but the place is not at all secure, and the criminal prisoners are not permitted to use it. The prison is not well ventilated, and some parts of it are insecure. The last escape, however, is as far back as 16 years ago, though there have been many attempts since. On the occasion referred to, 3 prisoners got away by cutting through the iron bars of the window. The criminals' day-room and some of debtors' rooms are warmed by open fires, but there is no provision for warming the cells, and in winter they must be very cold. I found the prison moderately clean.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There were 12 prisoners at the time of my visit, viz., 10 criminals and 2 debtors, and this is now about the average number, although it is considerably less than it was 10 or 15 years ago. The greatest number of prisoners at any one time last year was 14, but in former years there have been as many as 40 at a time: the decrease has been chiefly among the debtors and smugglers. The total number of prisoners last year was 75, viz., 53 criminals (47 males and 6 females), 8 debtors (7 males and 1 female), and 14 revenue prisoners (13 males and 1 female.) One of the prisoners at the present time is a lunatic, who, in a fit of madness, killed his own child; he has been in the gaol about 11 years. This man mixes with the other prisoners, but he has not for a long time shown any serious symptoms of derangement. About a year and a half ago there were 3 other lunatics, who were often in a state of violent madness, and whose cries disturbed the whole neighbourhood. After remaining in the gaol a considerable time, 1 of them died, and the other 2 were sent to an asylum at Musselburgh, where they are maintained at a cost of 20*l.* a-year each. A dispute has arisen as to who ought to pay this money, and it is probable that a law-suit will be the result. I found some of the prisoners clean, but others were dirty.

Health.

Health.—The prisoners do not enjoy good health. The ordinary complaints are dysentery, typhus fever, pectoral affections, rheumatism, and cutaneous disorders, the latter being the most common. There was 1 death last year.

Food.

Food.—The gaoler supplies the food, for which he is allowed 8*d.* per day for each prisoner: the rations, however, are not fixed. The prisoners have porridge, with milk, treacle, or butter, for breakfast, and broth, with bread or potatoes, and herrings or butcher's meat, for dinner. The food appears to be too abundant and too good when compared with that of the poorest class of honest labourers. The allowance to debtors varies generally from 1*s.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* a day. Additional supplies from without are permitted to all prisoners.

Bedding.

Bedding.—2½ blankets, a coverlet, and some loose straw or hay. There is no regular supply of clothing, but a few articles are occasionally given.

Discipline.

Discipline.—There has hitherto been no attempt to maintain anything like discipline. The prisoners have no occupation, and most of their time is passed in each other's society. Even male and female prisoners often associate during the day. Thus at the time of my visit there was a woman of loose character, who passed most of her time in the company of the other prisoners, some of them being men and some boys. Under such circumstances it is not surprising, that within the last 3 or 4 years 2 bastard children have been born in the prison. The usual prison offences are making noises, quarrelling and fighting, getting whisky through the windows, and stealing from fellow-prisoners. Punishment is seldom inflicted: sometimes, however, a prisoner is confined in one of the sleeping cells. There is no whipping.

Females.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and no difference is made in the treatment of males and females.

Debtors.

Debtors.—There was no debtor at the time of my visit, and the prison is now more frequently without a debtor than with one. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are generally allowed at the discretion of the gaoler, and letters are either examined by him or not as he may judge best. Smoking is permitted.

Officers.—There is a gaoler and an under gaoler; the latter, however, is also a burgh officer and town scavenger. The gaoler resides in the prison, but the under gaoler does not. The gaoler appears to be an intelligent man, and, although slow, to be tolerably well qualified for his office, provided good general arrangements were introduced. Several gentlemen who have opportunities of knowing him, spoke highly of him. Were he, however, a man of much energy, he would himself have tried to introduce something like a tolerable system of discipline.—The surgeon has the medical care of the criminals only; he attends when sent for, and occasionally without application.—There is no regularly-appointed chaplain, but one of the clergymen of the town is kind enough to visit the prison and perform service on the alternate Sundays. This gentleman spoke in strong terms of the demoralizing state of the prison at the present time, and expressed an anxious hope that a good system of management might soon be introduced.

Gaolers. Surgeon. Clergyman.

Fees.—A fee varying from 1*s.* to 10*s.* is paid to the gaoler by the imprisoning creditor on the admission of a debtor, and a fee of about 4*s.* on an average is paid partly to the town clerk and partly to a sheriff's officer, on every application by a debtor for aliment. The gaoler also states, that he has a claim to 4*d.* a night from every debtor during his stay, but it does not appear that this claim is ever enforced.

Fees.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, and the town chamberlain an account of disbursements; the latter, however, is mixed with the general expenditure of the town. The register is according to the prescribed form, and is kept with neatness and apparent accuracy. The expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1836, was as follows:—(The cost of food in this account is about 10*l.* less than the average for the last four years, but the general total is probably 30*l.* more than a like average.)

Accounts.

Expenditure.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Food	84	16	9
Board of 2 lunatics for a quarter of a year	10	0	6
Clothing	1	0	9
Fuel	2	0	0
Soap and washing	2	0	4
Repairs	14	10	3½
Sundries:—			
Burial of a prisoner £3 15 5			
Conveying 2 lunatic prisoners to an asylum at Musselburgh 35 10 9			
Miscellaneous 2 9 0			
	41	15	2
Salaries:—			
Gaoler 25 0 0			
Under gaoler (one-half of his salary as both burgh officer and under gaoler) 11 7 0			
Surgeon (including charge for medicines) 11 18 4			
	48	5	4
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors and smugglers	£204	9	1½

(152*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.* of this sum was paid by the county, and 51*l.* 17*s.* 2½*d.* by the burgh.)

Average number of prisoners during the year 10¾, viz., 6½ criminals, 1 debtor, and 3¼ revenue prisoners.

Average cost of each criminal prisoner during the year, about 20*l.*; daily cost, about 1*s.* 2*d.*

Cost per head.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Jurisdiction.

Improvements.—Before leaving Inveraray I addressed the following letter to Mr. MacLachlan, the convener of the county:—

Improvements.

"Dear Sir, "Inverary, 7th October, 1837.

"I have much pleasure in complying with your request to furnish you with a statement in writing of the chief points which I called your attention to the other day, respecting the prison of Inveraray.

"I am sorry that it will be my duty to make a very unfavourable Report to Parliament of the state of this prison. Not only are the prisoners constantly exposed to the demoralizing effects of idleness and the corrupt society of their associates, but the separation even of prisoners of different sexes is not maintained; and there is, at the present moment, a woman of loose character in the gaol, who passes much of her time with the male prisoners. As you are aware, too, about two years ago, another woman gave birth to a bastard child in the prison. The prisoners, moreover, both criminals and debtors, hold communication with persons outside the gaol, and often obtain supplies of whisky.

"It is, I am sure, unnecessary for me to do more than call attention to these evils to create a strong desire to apply an immediate remedy; and this, I am glad to say, can be done to a considerable extent without much trouble or expense. I have little doubt that for a sum not exceeding 100*l.*, and with an increase of about 30*l.* a-year to the keeper's salary, many of the present evils may be put a stop to, and a moderately good system of discipline established.

"The two leading principles of an efficient system of prison discipline are, in my opinion, separation of prisoner from prisoner and useful employment. And with the present number of prisoners, small as the accommodation is, it will generally be possible to have each prisoner in a cell by himself, and by exertion on the part of the keeper to supply him with work. To put a stop to communication with the outside, it will be necessary to put a strong iron frame, glazed with ground glass in each window; and to obtain room in the cells during the day, the present iron bedsteads must be removed and their place supplied with hammocks.

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"Several other alterations will be requisite, but these I expect will be most expensive. It is, indeed, very desirable that the cells should be warmed by hot water-pipes, and that the outer wall should be raised; but these alterations, which would be more expensive than any of the others, may, I think, be deferred for the present.

"Supposing the sanction of the county to be obtained for carrying the alterations into effect (and we cannot, of course, look to the burgh, which is poor, and which is already compelled by law to contribute more than its just share), the course which I should recommend would be to apply to Mr. Brebner, the governor of the Glasgow bridewell, requesting him to come to Inverary, and furnish you with a detailed statement and estimate of the necessary alterations: that then, if the whole cost be not greater than what may have been allowed by the county, Mr. Brebner should be empowered to give the necessary orders for carrying the alterations into effect; that whilst the different articles are being made, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell should visit the prison at Ayr and the Glasgow bridewell, in order that they may see a well-regulated prison in actual operation, and have the benefit of Mr. Brebner's instruction and advice; and that when everything is ready, and they have returned to Inverary, Mr. Brebner should be requested to come and set the new system in motion.

"What I have recommended may be objected to, on the ground that Government has brought forward a measure for putting all the prisons of Scotland under one general management; and that it is therefore better not to make any changes at present. I fully agree in the propriety of avoiding such alterations at present as entail a great expense, or the necessity of putting up new buildings; but what I have proposed can be effected at a small cost; and as a considerable time must elapse before the general measure can come into full operation, the good effects that will be obtained in the mean time will, I trust, be considered an ample recompense for the money expended; and indeed most of the alterations will probably be of permanent value.

"I am, dear Sir, yours truly,
(Signed) "Frederic Hill.

"Robert MacLachlan, Esq.,
Convener of Argyllshire."

The following was Mr. MacLachlan's reply:—

"Dear Sir, "Castle Lachlan, 18th November, 1837.

"I communicated your letter regarding the Inverary gaol to Lord John Campbell, the vice lieutenant of the county, and to as many of the resident gentlemen as the time permitted. I am happy to say that the great importance of an improved prison discipline and the propriety of the particular alterations you suggested at Inverary were admitted by every one; and a general meeting was called to consider the subject, and at which I hoped authority would have been given for getting them immediately executed. I regret that owing, probably, to the bad weather, the meeting was very thinly attended, and there not being there a legal quorum of the commissioners of supply of the county present, nothing could be done that required an outlay of money, except at the expense or rather the guarantee of the gentlemen present. The meeting therefore confined itself to the following particulars:—

"After a minute inspection of the gaol and a consultation with the magistrates, the windows were ordered to be so secured as entirely to prevent communication from without.

"Hammocks were ordered for each cell in place of the present iron bedsteads.

"A small sum of money was placed at the disposal of the magistrates to purchase materials for work for the prisoners; and the magistrates were requested to introduce, as far as possible, your recommendations as to prison discipline.

"The meeting resolved to bring the subject fully before the meeting of commissioners of supply on the 30th of April next; and in particular to recommend that the cells, during the winter season, should be heated, without which it is impossible to classify the prisoners properly, or to confine them entirely to their cells.

"I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,
(Signed) "R. MacLachlan."

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Inverary.—It rarely happens that any serious offence is committed here, but there appears to be a considerable number of petty offences, consisting chiefly of assaults and thefts. A respectable and active police officer is much wanted.

CAMPBELTOWN, ARGYLLSHIRE.

Population, including the suburbs, about 7,000. The whole population of Cantire Proper is about 30,000.

Campbeltown.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Campbeltown is one of the worst in Scotland. It is old, very insecure, quite exposed to the street, insufficient in its accommodation, ill-ventilated, and in some parts damp. Bad as it is, however, I was told, that till within the last 15 years it was much worse. Such is the insecurity of the place, that the sheriff is often induced to receive an insufficient bail rather than run the risk of a forcible escape. There are 2 rooms and 4 cells, and their dimensions are as follows:—

Rooms.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
1	16½	15	9	2,200
1	18	15½	8	2,200
Cells.				
1	2	11	12	1,600
1	12	9	12	1,300
2	11	10	6½	700

Present state.

There is no airing yard. I found most parts of the prison moderately clean (excepting the walls, which had not been whitewashed for about a year and a half), but I learned from the medical man who generally attends the place, that it is often dirty, and that the prisoners themselves are frequently dirty. The two rooms are warmed by open fires, and as the floors and

ceilings are of wood, there must always be a danger of the building catching fire. There is no provision for warming the cells, except that a stove is occasionally put in one of them.

Prisoners.—There were 9 prisoners at the time of my visit; viz., 7 criminals, 1 debtor, and 1 revenue prisoner. This is about the average number for the last 3 years; though occasionally there are as many as 14 or 15 at a time. The total number of prisoners last year was 44; viz., 39 criminals (36 males and 3 females) and 5 debtors (all males). These are exclusive of about 10 persons who were confined for a single night. Prisoners.

With the exception of 1 female (a criminal), all the prisoners I found in confinement were males. Unless in cases where an attempt to escape is apprehended, all the prisoners, whether males or females, criminals or debtors, are confined in the two rooms which form the upper story of the building; and as the doors of these rooms are left open, the prisoners go from one to the other as they choose, so that there is but little more separation than if the two rooms formed but one; and in fact, female prisoners, whether they have their husbands in the gaol or not, pass not only the day but the night in the same room with male prisoners. Indeed, on my first visit to the prison, I found a man and his wife in bed together (the latter a visitor, not a prisoner), although it was in the middle of the day. In the same room there was another man in bed, but he was ill of the scurvy. In the other room (from which as I have already remarked there is free access to the first) there were several other men and a woman, but all of these were up and dressed.

Health.—There has hitherto been no regularly-appointed surgeon, and no one consequently considers himself responsible for looking after the health of the prisoners. Thus, though one of the prisoners just mentioned was labouring under a severe attack of scurvy, his complaint was not known until I had requested the surgeon who sometimes visits the prison to examine him. Under these circumstances it is impossible to speak with certainty as to the general health of the prisoners. The medical gentleman however, already referred to, reports the health to be but indifferent, so far as he has observed, and states that the prisoners generally lose flesh and become debilitated. The damp and ill-ventilated condition of the lower cells, indeed, the frequently crowded state of the prison, and the general want of cleanliness, must all tend to produce illness. The only death, however, that is stated to have occurred for several years, is that of a woman who hanged herself. This was about 6 years ago. Health.

Food.—The prisoners are fed by the gaoler, who is allowed 8*d.* per day for each. No rations are laid down, and the quantity and quality of the food are left to the gaoler himself. I did not, however, receive any complaint on this head, and there is little doubt that the gaoler errs on the side of feeding the prisoners too well. The breakfast consists of porridge and milk; and the dinner of butcher's meat or herrings and potatoes; and on the days on which there is no butcher's meat, the prisoners are allowed supper, consisting of a penny loaf and a pint of milk. Debtors who succeed in obtaining an order for aliment receive a money allowance of 10*d.* or 1*s.* a-day generally. Additional supplies of food from without are permitted to all prisoners. Food.

Bedding.—Loose straw, 3 blankets, and a coverlet.—There is no supply of clothing except as an occasional gift. Bedding.

Discipline.—It will already have appeared that there is nothing approaching discipline in this gaol; and under the circumstances mentioned, it will not be deemed extraordinary that a few years ago a female prisoner was got with child: in fact, a system of corruption must be constantly at work; and so easy is the communication from the outside that the contamination is not confined within the walls of the gaol. A prisoner well skilled in crime, who was in confinement a few months ago, had often a crowd of young persons collected round the door hearing the narrative of his adventures, and a description of the various arts he had practised. A lady residing in the town told me that she had been obliged to give her children the strictest injunctions not to join these parties. Several young prisoners too became able, under the instruction of this accomplished offender, almost to baffle the examination of the sheriff and procurator fiscal. There is no work, and but little legitimate instruction, in this prison. The usual prison offences appear to be getting supplies of whiskey and talking to people in the street. Punishment is seldom inflicted, but when it is it generally consists of confinement in one of the lower cells. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and as has already appeared, female prisoners are treated in every respect the same as males. Females.

Debtors.—The average number of debtors during the last year is only 1. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler. Letters pass unexamined. Smoking is permitted. There is no provision for sending prisoners back to their parishes, but I believe that the elder gaoler, who has the reputation of being a kind-hearted man, sometimes gives a little assistance himself. Visits, &c. Smoking.

Officers.—There are two gaolers, who act also as burgh-officers, and occasionally as sheriffs'-officers. They both receive the same salary (a small one), but the elder gaoler who has been longest in office, appears to have the chief management. Both officers are spoken well of by those who must have had opportunities of knowing them. The state of the prison certainly did credit to no one, but the small salary given, and the bad construction and bad arrangements of the gaol, must be borne in mind before casting any reflection on the gaolers. As already mentioned, there is no regularly-appointed surgeon. There is no chaplain also, though the prison is occasionally visited by a gentleman who kindly gives some religious instruction. Gaolers. Surgeon.

Fees.—There is a fee of 2*s.* 5½*d.* paid by the imprisoning creditor on the admission of a Fees.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Campbeltown.

Accounts.

debtor. This goes to the gaolers. The gaolers also claim a fee of 4*d.* per night from each debtor; but this fee I was told is seldom obtained.

Accounts.—The elder gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, according to the prescribed form. It is neat, but has many omissions, the revenue prisoners being entirely left out. The account of disbursements is kept by the town treasurer. The following is a statement of the expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1837. (The cost of aliment this year is more by about one-half than the average for the last 3 years):—

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Food	75	8	0
Clothing	0	15	5½
Fuel	1	9	10
Washing	0	9	6
Straw	0	6	0
Sundries	0	1	6
Salaries:—			
2 gaolers, cash, 5*l.* 10*s.* each	£11	0	0
Ditto, clothing, 6*l.* 14*s.* each	13	8	0
(This is one half of their full salary, as they act as police-officers also. Besides their salaries the gaolers have the use of a small house.)			
1 watchman (on duty when an attempt at escape is apprehended)	11	3	6
	35	11	6
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors and revenue officers	£114	1	9½

Of the above, 59*l.* 7*s.* was paid by the county, for the aliment of prisoners before trial (about twice the average for the last 3 years), and the remainder, 54*l.* 14*s.* 9½*d.*, by the burgh.

Average number of prisoners during the year 9½; namely, 6½ criminals, 1 debtor, and 2 revenue prisoners.

Cost per head. Average cost of each criminal prisoner during the year about 16*l.*; daily cost about 10½*d.*

Jurisdiction. *Jurisdiction.*—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c. *State of Crime at Campbeltown.*—It is stated that there is a good deal of crime, &c., here, consisting of thefts (including shop-breaking) and drunken brawls, leading to assaults. Many of the offences escape detection. The number of thefts is said to have much increased during the last 20 years with the increased facilities of disposing of stolen goods.

Age, &c., of the offenders. Most of the offenders are between 12 and 30 years old. They are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. They belong to the poorest class chiefly, and many have no regular occupation. Most of the offenders are inhabitants of the burgh, though many are Irish.

November, 1837.

Improvements. The following are the recommendations which I made for checking some of the evils in the prison of Campbeltown until a new building is put up:—

Admittance of a Prisoner.—Every prisoner, on his admittance, to be carefully examined, that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, and whether he has anything in his possession unsuitable to a prison, as knives, files, &c. The prisoner then to wash himself from head to foot, and his hair to be cut if necessary.

Separation.—Female prisoners never on any account to be put in the same room with males, even when the parties are man and wife; and all the prisoners to be kept separate, as far as the accommodation of the prison will admit. The lower cell called "the thieves hole," to be prepared for the reception of female prisoners.

Work.—The prisoners to be encouraged to work, by being allowed one half of their clear earnings. No tools, however, to be admitted which may serve as instruments of escape.

Food.—The dietary of the Glasgow Bridewell to be adopted, unless from local circumstances some other dietary can be substituted which is equally nutritious and which is less expensive. The dietary of the Glasgow Bridewell is as follows:—

Breakfast.—Ten ounces and three quarter of oatmeal made into porridge, with some buttermilk.

Dinner.—Four ounces of barley made into 2 pints of soup (with vegetables, marrow-bones, and seasoning), and from 4 to 11 ounces of coarse bread, according to the age, &c., of the prisoner.

Fermented liquor of every kind and all other luxuries, such as butter, sugar, tea, tobacco, snuff, &c., to be forbidden; and no supplies of food from friends and acquaintances outside the prison to be allowed.

Fires.—Fires to be permitted only when the state of the weather renders them necessary. Fuel, however, to be then supplied (in moderate quantities) at the cost of the burgh.

Cleanliness.—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning; and not to receive his breakfast until he has obeyed the regulation. The prisoners to be supplied with soap, towels, &c. Each prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a-week. The prisoners to be compelled to keep their rooms, cells, &c., constantly clean and neat.

Punishments.—Every prisoner who shall call to any person outside the gaol or to a prisoner in another room, or who shall make a noise of any kind, or who shall use abusive or otherwise improper language, or who shall misconduct himself in any other way, shall lose his breakfast; and if he persists in refractory conduct, shall be removed to one of the lower cells. The gaoler to open a book in which he shall enter every offence with the punishment inflicted; which book shall be shown to the provost or visiting magistrate at least once a-week.

Visits.—Visits to untried prisoners to be restricted to once a-week, viz., to Monday, between the hours of — and —; visits to convicted prisoners to be in like manner restricted to once a-month, viz., the first Monday of the month, between the hours of — and —. No visitor to stay more than five minutes, and the keeper to be present during the interview. The name of every visitor and his place of residence to be recorded by the keeper.

The foregoing regulations apply to females equally with males.

Exceptions.—The regulations do not extend to debtors; and the rule respecting visitors does not apply to the legal adviser of an untried prisoner. Debtors, however, equally with others, to be prohibited from smoking; and no visitor to a debtor to be permitted to remain in the room in the absence of the gaoler, if any of the criminal prisoners have access to the same room.

Sundry Recommendations.

The whole of the prison to be lime-washed immediately; and henceforward to be lime-washed regularly twice a-year.

Iron Venetian blinds to be put up before all the windows so as to prevent the prisoners from seeing people in the street and communicating with them.

Small openings to be made at the back of the cells and of the front upper room, to improve the ventilation.

A chest to be provided for one of the upper rooms, in which the bed-clothes shall be kept during the day.

A regular engagement to be made with one of the surgeons of the town for the medical care of the prisoners.

By a letter received a few days ago from Mr. Harvey, the town-clerk of Campbeltown, I find that the foregoing regulations, under the heads *Admittance of a Prisoner, Food, Fires,* and *Cleanliness,* have been carried into effect; that the prison has been lime-washed, and that Venetian blinds are making to put up before the windows. It appears that my recommendation to alter and fit up one of the lower cells for females has not been adopted, but that the magistrates have made arrangements for the separate confinement of females up-stairs. Mr. Harvey further reports that no suitable work for the prisoners can be procured; that a chest will be provided for the bedclothes; that the small openings which I suggested, to improve the ventilation, have been considered unnecessary; and that there has hitherto been no necessity for the rule respecting punishment, the prisoners having behaved well.

March, 1838.

ARGYLLSHIRE.

Argyllshire.

Population about 105,000.

Prisons existing at present.—Four; viz., a prison for debtors and criminals at Inverary and Campbeltown, and a lock-up house for criminals at Oban and Tobermory. Existing prisons.

Additional Prisons required.—Three; viz., 1 at Lochgilphead, which has a population of about 1500, and which is rapidly increasing, being centrally situated and a place of much thoroughfare; 1 at Dunoon, the population of which, including the immediate neighbourhood, is about 4000; and 1 at Bowmore in Islay. (The population of the whole of Islay is about 16,000.) There is a good deal of crime at each of these places, and at each of them the sheriff substitute will, in future, hold his circuit court. Prisons required.

State of Crime.—There appears to be a good deal of crime in this county in proportion to the population. The chief offences are thefts and assaults, the latter being often to the danger of life. In some parts of the county, too, child murder is rather common, as is forgery in others. Sheep stealing appears to be a common offence throughout the county; but, owing to the want of an efficient police, the offenders are seldom detected. Another offence, which is equivalent to robbery, and which is rather common, is the removal of cattle, &c. (sometimes in large numbers), by a tenant who is in arrears for his rent; the tenant himself of course disappearing at the same time. An offence also of a yet more serious character, which is still common in this county (and which indeed is scarcely yet generally recognised as an offence), is the plunder of wrecked vessels. In the neighbourhood of Campbeltown stealing linen and poultry, and robbing dairies and gardens, have of late become common, owing, it is believed, to the facilities for the disposal of the stolen articles which steam communication with Glasgow and other large towns has afforded. Crime, &c.

On comparing the state of crime at present in Argyllshire with what it is reported to have been forty years ago, there appears to have been a decrease in the number of serious offences, but an increase, in some parts of the county, in petty offences, and this beyond what might have been expected from the increase in population. Among the serious offences which have become comparatively rare within the period referred to are murder, rape, and fire-raising (in-

cendiarism). It is believed that there has been only one case of premeditated murder in this county during the last 15 years. If, instead of confining the comparison to a term of 40 years, we go back to a period prior to the abolition of hereditary jurisdictions (which took place in 1747), the decrease in the number of heinous offences, and in the amount of capital punishment inflicted, becomes more striking; as is shown by an examination of the old records of the Sheriff Court.

It has already been stated that the offence of sheep-stealing is often committed with impunity; the same observation is applicable to many other offences; and is accounted for partly by the want of a good police, and partly by a reluctance to give information, owing, it is thought, to some extent, to a fear of molestation and to an unwillingness also to incur the trouble of attending the trial, which, from the great distance of many parts of the county from the places where alone courts of justice are at present held, is often considerable.

Offenders.

The usual age of the offenders in Kintyre and Islay is stated to be from 12 to 30, but in the northern part of the county the offenders were said to be of various ages. The offenders, as a class, are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. Drunkenness, indeed, is stated to be the cause, directly or indirectly, of most of the offences. Many of the offenders have no regular employment, and of the others many work only during the herring season. Many of the young offenders are either orphans or the children of bad parents; and many are found to be much below others, in the same rank of life, in education. The offenders belong chiefly to the county, though there are many Irish among them and many others who come in by the steam-packets. A provision for poor lunatics is much wanted in this county, not only for the sake of the lunatics themselves, but for the security of the people generally.

Police.

Police.—There is a great want of an organized and efficient police. With the exception of a few burgh officers, the only men employed are sheriff-officers and messengers-at-arms, who are paid only for the particular service in which they are employed, and who, with the exception of about half-a-dozen respectable men, are reported to be drunken and worthless.

November, 1837.

Rothesay.

ROTHESAY, BUTESHIRE.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison of Rothesay is almost new, having been erected within the last four years. The entire cost of the county buildings, of which the prison forms part, was about 4000*l.*; of which about 2000*l.* may perhaps be considered as the cost of the prison. The building stands in the middle of the town, at the top of some sloping ground, the soil consisting chiefly of sand. The construction of the prison is much better than in the generality of other prisons, and is such as will readily admit of the introduction of a good system of discipline. The prison appears to be tolerably secure, and can easily be made quite so. There has certainly been an instance of escape, but it happened when the building was scarcely complete. There are altogether 14 cells or rooms, and their dimensions are as follows:—

Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
1	13½	11	9	1300
1	14	9	8½	1100
1	17	8	10	1350
1	12½	7	10	850
1	12	7	8½	700
2	9½	7	9	600
3	8	7	9	500
1	9½	7	8½	550
1	9½	8	8½	650
2	8	8	8	500
14				

Present state.

There are two airing-yards: one of them 48 feet long and 43 feet broad, and the other 28 feet long and 24 feet broad. The cells wanted white-washing, the walls of several of them being very dirty, which was caused partly by the prisoners spitting upon them. (They are allowed to chew tobacco.) In other respects most of the cells were tolerably clean. There are at present no water-closets, and no receptacle for filth. The whole of the prison appears to be tolerably dry. It is warmed by open fires, of which there is one in every cell. Some of the chimneys, however, are smoky, which in part accounted for the dirty state of the walls. The ventilation is tolerably good.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—Both debtors and criminals are received here. There were ten prisoners at the time of my visit; viz., 1 debtor, 4 revenue prisoners, and 5 criminals. The average number of prisoners is not more than five. The total number last year was 32; viz., 17 criminals (14 males and 3 females), 2 debtors (both males), and 13 revenue prisoners (all males). About one-half generally are revenue prisoners, but there is seldom any debtor. There was only one female prisoner at the time of my visit (a criminal).

Some of the prisoners were dirty, and I found on examination that they do not generally wash themselves more than once or twice a-week.

Health.

Health.—Generally good. No diseases could be specified as at all common. Smugglers accustomed to the mountain air are sometimes affected by the confinement, but the medical gentleman who is kind enough to attend the prison is of opinion that their sickness is often feigned, in part at least, in the hope of obtaining a certificate for liberation. There has hitherto been no death in the prison.

Food.—The prisoners are fed by the gaoler, who receives 6*d.* per day for each of them. The rations, however, are not fixed. The prisoners have porridge with milk or molasses for breakfast; and beef, or beef soup, or herrings with potatoes or bread, for dinner. Debtors have a money allowance generally of 7*d.* a-day. Revenue prisoners get the usual allowance of 4½*d.* per day from the Board of Customs or Excise: but there is often a delay of several weeks, or even of months, in sending the order, and the payment is never retrospective. Additional supplies of food from without, although permitted, appear to be discouraged as far as regards criminal prisoners. Food.

Bedding.—Loose straw, two pairs of blankets, and a coverlet. I found some of the blankets dirty. It was stated that they are generally washed twice a-year.—There is no supply of body clothing. Bedding.

Discipline.—There is at present but little deserving the name of discipline in this prison. Separation is carried to some extent, but is by no means theestablished rule, and, even when the prisoners are in separate cells, they can often talk to each other, and conversation of this kind is not looked upon as an offence. In two or three instances prisoners have been set to work, but with these exceptions they have been allowed to pass their time in idleness. There is no provision for instruction, and the prison is not visited by any clergyman. The conduct of the prisoners appears to be generally tolerably good, and there seems to be little or no punishment. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and females are not treated in any way differently from males. Females.

Debtors.—There were only two debtors last year, and they together remained only four days. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed during seven hours of each day, at the discretion of the gaoler. Letters are generally examined by him, but not always. Smoking is permitted. The passage of prisoners back to their place of abode (most of them come from the island of Arran) is sometimes paid by the county; frequently, however, the captains of the steam-boats consent to take them for nothing. Visits, &c. Smoking.

Officers.—There is only one officer; viz., the gaoler. He is rather old, but he is considered trustworthy, and is well-spoken of by those who have had an opportunity of knowing him. I received no complaint of him from the prisoners. He resides on the spot. Gaoler.

Fees.—Until lately fees were demanded of debtors on their liberation, but these have now been abolished, and the only fee remaining is one of from 2*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* from the imprisoning creditor on the admission of a debtor. Fees.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments according to the usual form, and the town-clerk a record of disbursements. The following is a statement of the expenditure for the year ending October 5, 1837. (The payment for food in this year was greater by about one-half than the average for the last three years). Accounts.

Expenditure.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Food	34	0	6
Furniture and bedding	3	11	7½
Fuel (about)	3	15	0
Washing bed-clothes		5	6
Straw		2	6
Brushes, slop-pails, &c.	2	19	7
Insurance		15	0
Repairs	3	14	8
Keeper's salary (including 4*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* for clothing)	29	6	8
(The keeper has also a salary of 7*l.* a-year from the burgh for occasional assistance as police-officer, and his house is rent free.)			
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors and revenue prisoners	78	11	0½

(23*l.* of this sum was paid by the county; viz., 13*l.* for the aliment of prisoners before trial, and 10*l.* as part of the keeper's salary. The remainder, 55*l.* 11*s.* 0½*d.*, was paid by the burgh.)

Average number of prisoners during the year rather more than 6½; viz., 3½ criminals, 3 revenue prisoners, and $\frac{1}{100}$ debtor.

Average cost of each criminal prisoner during the year about 17*l.* Daily cost about 11*d.* Cost per head.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of Rothesay. Jurisdiction.

November, 1837,

The following are the rules, &c., which I recommended for the prison of Rothesay:— Improvements.

Admittance of a Prisoner.—Every prisoner on his admittance to be carefully examined, that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, and whether he has any thing in his possession unsuitable to a prison, as knives, files, &c. The prisoner then to wash himself from head to foot, and his hair to be cut if necessary.

Prison Hours.—Rising, 6 o'clock; breakfast, 9; dinner, 3; bed, 9 in summer, and 8 in winter.

Separation.—No two prisoners ever to be put into the same cell, or to be allowed to see each other, or to hold communication of any kind, except in cases of absolute necessity arising from want of accommodation.

Work.—Work to be provided for all prisoners who may be sentenced to labour, and for such others as may be willing to labour; the latter being allowed one-half of their

clear earnings as an encouragement. Nothing, however, to be paid to those who are required to work, unless they do more than the stated quantity, which is estimated at 10 hours' labour each day. No money to be paid to the prisoners during their confinement, but to be given to them after their liberation, and then only in such manner and in such portions as the visiting magistrate may think proper. The prisoners to do every kind of work about the gaol which can be trusted to them, and always to bear in mind that the gaoler is their master and not their servant.

Lighting.—Each cell to be furnished with a lamp (a common tin lamp is recommended) and in winter to be lighted both in the morning and the evening.

Female officer.—The female prisoners to be under the immediate charge of the gaoler's wife; the gaoler, however, to have a general charge of them, and to be responsible as at present for their safe custody.

Food.—The dietary of the Glasgow Bridewell to be adopted—subject to any modification which local circumstances may suggest. Fermented liquor of every kind, and all other luxuries, such as butter, sugar, tea, tobacco, snuff, &c., to be forbidden; and no supplies of food from friends and acquaintances outside the prison to be allowed.

Bedding.—The blankets, &c., in each cell to be folded up every morning, and then either to be removed into the open air or put into presses, and not to be returned to the cells before bed-time.

Clothing.—A few complete suits of clothes of different sizes, including linen, &c., to be procured; and the gaoler to be instructed to take a prisoner's own clothes from him, when they are ragged or have vermin about them, and to give him one of the prison dresses. Such prisoner, however, to give up the prison dress, and to receive back his own, on leaving the gaol.

Cleanliness.—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning, and not to receive his breakfast till he has obeyed this regulation. The prisoners to be supplied with soap, towels, &c. Every prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a-week. The prisoners to keep their cells, &c., constantly clean and neat; and the whole of the prison and everything belonging to it, including the bedding, &c., to be always kept clean and in good order. The prison to be white-washed immediately, and henceforward to be white-washed regularly once in three months.

Fires.—Fires to be allowed only when the state of the weather renders them necessary. The fuel then to be supplied (in moderate quantities) at the cost of the burgh.

Instruction.—Some one to be appointed to teach such of the prisoners as are unable to read easily.

Punishments.—Any prisoner who shall wantonly or carelessly injure any part of the prison, or anything belonging to it, shall be required to pay for the injury; and if he be unable to do so shall be deprived of part of his daily food until the sum is made up. And every prisoner who shall use improper language, or call to any other prisoner, or make a noise of any kind, or who shall otherwise misconduct himself, shall lose his breakfast; and if he persist in his misconduct shall be subject to such farther punishment as the visiting Magistrate may, on representation, direct. Corporal punishment, however, never, on any account, to be inflicted.

Visits.—Visits to unconvicted prisoners to be restricted to once a-week; namely, to Wednesday, between the hours of ten and one. Visits to convicted prisoners to be restricted in like manner to once a-month; namely, to the first Wednesday of the month, between the hours of ten and one.

The foregoing regulations to apply to females equally with males.

Exceptions.—The regulations do not extend to debtors, and the rule respecting visitors does not apply to the legal adviser of an untried prisoner. Debtors, however, equally with other prisoners, shall not be allowed to smoke or to chew tobacco, or to receive supplies of spirituous liquors. And every debtor who shall attempt to evade this regulation, or who shall otherwise misconduct himself, shall be subject to a fine of one penny; and if he persist in his misconduct, to such other punishment or loss of privilege as the visiting Magistrate may direct.

Revenue prisoners shall be subject to the regulations under the heads, "Admittance of a Prisoner," "Female Officer," "Bedding," and "Cleanliness," together with those just mentioned, as applicable to debtors.

Sundry Recommendations.—Water to be introduced into the prison, and the water-closets to be completed.

Each prisoner to have a small piece of wood and a mat to stand on, to protect him from the cold of the floor. (One of the prisoners can be employed in making them.)

The following is extracted from a letter which I received a short time ago from Rothesay, in reply to my inquiry whether the foregoing rules, &c., had been carried into effect:—

"With the very first opportunity after you were at Rothesay, the Magistrates submitted to the Council your recommendations relative to the prison, and very general approbation was expressed with regard to them; but, as usual in similar cases, a Committee was appointed to consider them more minutely, and to report. From various causes this Committee has not reported on the subject sub-

mitted to them; but last night they met, and, after going carefully over the whole, they approve of them all; only, that, under the heads "Separation," and "Visits," they thought the Magistrates should have a discretionary power to relax them in some instances; and that under the head "Food," other articles of diet should be occasionally substituted for those mentioned. Almost no other alteration was proposed; but so soon as the report is submitted to the Council, which I expect will be very shortly, I shall state to you more minutely what is done. In the mean time I thought it right to give information thus far. I may also mention that plans and specifications have already been prepared for bringing water into the prison."

I have subsequently received the report of the Committee, and I find that it agrees with the foregoing.

BUTESHIRE.

Population about 14,000.

Buteshire.

Prison existing at present.—One at Rothesay, for debtors and criminals. Existing prisons.

Additional Prisons required.—Two; viz., a small prison in the island of Arran (at Lamlash or Brodie), and a small prison at Millport, in Cumbray. Prisons required.

State of Crime.—There is a good deal of petty stealing, and there are many assaults. From time to time, too, there are cases both of murder and rape. House-breaking (unaccompanied, however, by personal violence) is common. Smuggling has ceased in the island of Bute, but is still common in Arran. Crime, &c.

Most of the thieves are found to be under twenty years of age, but the brawlers are generally older. Drunkenness is often the immediate cause, at least, of the offences. Many of the offenders are strangers, but many, also, are resident inhabitants.

Police.—An organized and efficient police is much wanted both in the burgh and county. Police.

November, 1837.

RUTHERGLEN, LANARKSHIRE.

Population 6000.

Rutherglen.

The prison of Rutherglen forms part of the town-house, which is a very old building. There are two rooms for debtors (which are used also for criminals), and three small cells in which drunken and disorderly persons are occasionally confined for a few hours. The dimensions of these rooms and cells are as follows:— Construction, &c.

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
Debtors' Rooms.				
1	16	13½	8	1700
1	16	13½	9	1950
Cells.				
2	4½	4	7¼	130
1	5½	3½	7¼	140
5				

There is no airing-yard. The prison is not secure, the floors and ceilings of the rooms generally used being of wood, and means existing of easy communication with the outside; for the windows open upon the street, and are not screened. The present town-clerk became acquainted with the inconvenience of this outward communication when a boy, in a way that made a striking impression upon him. Some lads having been apprehended for robbing his father's orchard, and sent to gaol, their companions seized him, and, carrying him to the window of the prison, held him there while those inside gave him a sound beating.

The prison wants whitewashing, but in other respects I found it moderately clean. One of the cells is damp, but the other cells are tolerably dry, and the rooms are quite dry. The rooms are warmed by open fires, and there must always be a danger of the building catching fire. The cells are not warmed in any way. The rooms are sufficiently ventilated, but the ventilation of the cells is not good, the only provision for it being a hole over the door. Present state.

Prisoners.—Both debtors and criminals are received. There was no one in confinement, however, at the time of my visit; and I found, by an examination of the books, that on an average there are not more than from 20 to 30 in the course of a year, and that few stay more than a day. This is accounted for by the circumstance that the magistrates of Rutherglen have the power of committing to the Glasgow bridewell. Prisoners.

Food.—The food is generally supplied by the prisoner's friends; when it is not, the prisoner is fed by the gaoler, who is allowed 6*d.* per day. Food.

Bedding.—Loose straw and 1½ pair of blankets. Bedding.

Discipline.—There is no work, nor any other kind of discipline. The prisoners are reported to behave well generally. The only punishment appears to be confinement in one of the cells, and even this is seldom resorted to. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and the females are not treated in any way differently from the males. Females.

Debtors.—There was no debtor at the time of my visit, and it is nearly two years since there was one. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from their friends are freely allowed. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Smoking is contrary to rule, but it is not prevented, and cannot be whilst communication with the street is as easy as at present. Smoking.

Officer.—The gaoler appears to be well qualified (considering the smallness of the prison), Gaoler.

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Rutherglen.

Fees. Accounts.

and is well spoken of. He receives 10*l.* a-year as gaoler, besides 10*l.* as town-officer. He lives, also, in the town-house rent-free.

Fees.—The gaoler has a fee from an imprisoning creditor of from 2*s.* to 1*l.*, according to the amount of the debt.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments according to the prescribed form. It is neat, but some of the columns are not filled up. The town treasurer keeps the account of expenditure. The expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1837, was as follows :—

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
Gaoler's Salary	10	0	0
Fuel, about	0	5	0
Repairs	2	19	8½
	£13	4	8½

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

December, 1837.

Improvements.

The following are the measures which I recommended for the temporary improvement of this prison. The annexed remarks by the town-clerk show how far they have been acted upon :—

	Remarks.
1. The prison to be white-washed immediately, and henceforward to be white-washed regularly twice a-year.	Has been white-washed, and will be white-washed twice a-year as recommended.
2. Iron Venetian blinds to be put up before each of the windows.	These have not been put up, their form not being known, and advantages not apparent.
3. Straw mattresses to be provided instead of loose straw; and in order that the blankets, &c.. may be kept clean, these latter to be removed from the cells during the day.	Straw mattresses have been provided, and this recommendation will be attended to.
4. Every prisoner to wash himself thoroughly each morning, and not to receive his breakfast until he has obeyed this regulation.—(This rule does not extend to debtors).	This recommendation will be attended to; but no prisoners have been admitted since these were issued.
5. Fermented liquors of all kinds to be excluded.—(This does not extend to debtors, except so far as relates to spirituous liquors).	The like answer.
6. Smoking to be prohibited.	The like answer.
7. Every prisoner who shall misconduct himself in any way to pay a fine of 1*d.*, or lose a meal; and, if he persist in his misconduct, to be removed to one of the lower cells, never, however, being placed in the back lower cell, which is very damp.	The like answer.
8. The gaoler to keep a record of all offences and punishments.	The like answer.
9. The foregoing rules to extend to females equally with males.	The like answer.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Rutherglen.—There does not appear to be much crime here. The most common offences are drunken brawls and petty thefts : 14 or 15 years ago fights and violent assaults were of frequent occurrence, but they are now comparatively rare ; and there appears, in every respect, to have been a great decrease in the amount of crime and disorder, which is attributed chiefly to the dread which exists of committal to the Glasgow bridewell. The power of sending to this prison was obtained in the year 1822.

Age, &c. of the offenders.

The thieves are chiefly lads from 12 to 18 years old. The brawlers are generally from 16 to 25. All the brawls and many of the thefts proceed from drunkenness. Many of the parents of the offenders are themselves of indifferent character. Many of the thefts are committed by persons from Glasgow, but the brawls are almost entirely among the colliers living in and near Rutherglen. A collier having been apprehended about a year ago, and confined in a porter's lodge while a messenger was sent to Glasgow for a warrant of committal, a party of fellow-workmen came to the lodge in masks, and, forcing the door open, liberated the offender, although he was guarded by a game-keeper with a loaded gun.

AIRDRIE, LANARKSHIRE.

Airdrie.

Population about 9000 ; or, including a district of four miles in radius, about 16,000.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Airdrie consists of five cells in the back part of the ground-floor of the town-house. The building was erected about 15 years ago, and stands on a sand rock, near the outskirts of the town. The cells are each 8 feet long, 7 feet broad, and 9½ feet high ; their cubical content, therefore, is about 530 feet. There is no airing-yard. Only three of the cells are at present used for prisoners, one of the other two having coal in it, and the other containing a number of lamps. The three cells in which prisoners are placed have each a wooden floor, raised a few inches above the stone floor, which serves to keep them dry, and comparatively warm ; there is, however, no provision for heating any of them, and they were certainly cold at the time of my visit (in December) ; the more so as several panes of glass had

been broken. The ceilings of the cells are of lath and plaster, and they must, of course, be insecure. I only heard, however, of one escape since the prison was built, though there were the marks of a recent attempt at escape. The place wanted white-washing, but in other respects it was moderately clean.

Prisoners.—Debtors are not received here. There was one prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that the average number is not more than one through the year. No proper register, however, has been kept. The number of prisoners admitted is very considerable,—not less, probably than 300 in the year (of course including cases of re-commitment, of which there are many), but they seldom remain more than a day or two, and often only a few hours. Persons under serious charges are sent to Hamilton, and most of the petty offenders pay a fine and obtain their discharge. The man whom I found in prison had been in 3 days, but he had not washed himself during the whole time, and he was very dirty. Prisoners.

Health.—It was stated that there is but little illness in the prison, and that there has not, as yet, been any death. Health.

Food.—Fourpennyworth of bread each day. Additional supplies from without are allowed to the untried, but not to the convicted. Food.

Bedding.—Loose straw (lying on the ground) and two rugs. Bedding.

Discipline.—There is no labour or discipline of any kind. Males and females are never put into the same cell, but they can readily talk to each other. The usual prison offences are scribbling and cutting names on the wall, making loud noises (often to the disturbance of the neighbourhood), kicking the door, breaking the windows, and obtaining supplies of whisky. The only punishment is putting the offender in irons. Discipline.

Female Prisoners—There is no female officer, and females are treated in every respect like males. Females.

Miscellaneous.—Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler; but it was stated that a visitor is never is never admitted into a cell. No instance was remembered of a letter being either received or sent. The prisoners are allowed to chew tobacco, but are forbidden to smoke; they sometimes, however, obtain the means of doing so through the window. Visits, &c.

Officer.—The gaoler is considered to be intelligent and trustworthy; but it appears that he is not always sober, which is accounted for by a practice among the inhabitants of giving him whisky when he acts as town-crier. His salary as gaoler is 2*l.* 2*s.* a-year, with fire and clothing. He lives in the prison. Gaoler.

Fees.—None exist. Fees.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Jurisdiction.

December, 1837.

I recommended the following measures for the temporary improvement of this small prison. The accompanying statements, by the provost, show how far they have been carried into effect. Improvements.

	Remarks.
1. A bath, or something to serve the purpose of a bath, to be provided, into which every prisoner shall go if he be not perfectly clean at the time of his admission.	In the course of being complied with.
2. The prison to be lime-washed immediately, the writing on the walls, &c., being previously scraped out; and to be henceforth regularly lime-washed twice a-year.	This is done, and will be attended to for the future.
3. The broken panes of glass to be replaced immediately, and the cells to be put in every respect in a state of thorough repair.	This is all complied with.
4. One of two cells now out of use to be prepared for the reception of prisoners who, either from drunkenness, or any other cause, are in a refractory state, and are likely to try to injure the building. The walls of this cell not to be plastered unless they happen to be so at present, and an iron shutter, with small holes for ventilation, to be put up instead of glazing the window.	This complied with, with the exception of the iron shutter, which will be provided.
5. Hammocks to be provided instead of the loose straw which at present serves for bedding. These hammocks to be removed from the cells during the day.	These hammocks are provided and in use.
6. Each cell to be furnished with a box, fastened to the floor, as in the cells of the Glasgow bridewell.	This is provided as recommended.
7. Fermented liquor, tobacco in every form, and luxuries of all kinds, to be excluded.	Always have been excluded.
8. Permission to be applied for to shut up the passage into which the cell windows open, so as to prevent all communication with persons on the outside.	Application is made to the National Bank for permission to close up this passage, and there is reason to believe it will be granted.

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9. *Cleanliness.*—Every prisoner to be required to wash himself thoroughly every morning (besides going into the bath on his admission), and not to be allowed any food until he has obeyed this regulation.

Remarks.

Is this understood to be before being tried, or afterwards? Those locked up before trial are almost always drunk, and it would be difficult to get them to wash themselves.

10. *Separation.*—The prisoners to be kept separate as far as possible; males being never on any account mixed with females.

There is rarely a case of a female being locked up in one of the cells; certainly never a committal to the cells after trial.

11. *Work.*—Some simple kind of work, such as picking cotton, &c., to be provided, and the prisoners to be encouraged to perform it by being allowed one-half of their earnings. (As the prison has not been legalized as a house of correction, it is questionable whether, in the present state of the law, the inmates can be *compelled* to work.)

The prisoners are either tried within 48 hours after the time of committal, or liberated on bail; and as the prisoners break the peace from drunkenness on the pay nights, they contrive to pay the fines imposed on the day of trial. The premises are so small, and the magistrates' powers so limited, that employing prisoners would not work at all.

12. *Punishments.*—Every prisoner who shall injure his cell, or anything contained in it, shall be required to pay for the injury, or, if he is unable to do so, shall lose part of his food each day until the cost is made up. And every prisoner who shall misconduct himself in any other way, as by making a noise, &c., shall be deprived of one of his meals; and, if he persist in his misconduct, shall be removed to the cell for the refractory, and, if necessary, be put in irons. The gaoler to be required to keep a register of all offences and punishments.

This will be attended to when a case arises.

This book is being kept.

The foregoing regulations apply to females equally with males.

In the letter accompanying the above Report, the provost informs me that a difficulty in raising money has been the cause of the delay that has occurred; a difficulty, he adds, which makes the magistrates "quite at a loss to carry on the police of the town even in its present very inefficient state." The provost says, however, that the magistrates will endeavour to have the whole of my recommendations carried into effect very soon.

In one part of his letter the provost remarks—"Since the opening of the Sheriff's Small Debt Court here, we get a number of petty thefts punished which were allowed to pass before."

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Airdrie.—There are many assaults here and some petty thefts, but the most serious offences are the acts of intimidation and ill usage arising out of combinations for the hopeless project of forcing up wages. Last summer a body of military (about 100 men) was sent for, and remained quartered here four months. Two or three years ago there was a formidable outbreak among the Orangemen and Catholics, but the sheriff of the county, aided by the Catholic bishop, took prompt measures, and soon succeeded in suppressing it.

Habits, &c., of the offenders.

Most of the offenders are from 18 to 30 years old, and are distinguished for habits of drunkenness. The offenders appear to be chiefly among the miners and colliers and the labourers connected with the mines and iron-works. It is stated that there are very few weavers among them. The offenders are observed to be much below others in the same rank of life in education. Most of them are said to be either Irish or of Irish extraction.

HAMILTON, LANARKSHIRE.

Population between 7000 and 8000.

Hamilton.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison of Hamilton is almost new, having been built within the last 3 years. It stands in the outskirts of the town, and behind the court-house, which was erected at the same time as the prison. The cost of the two buildings together was between 6000*l.* and 7000*l.*, of which about 3000*l.* may be considered the expense of the prison. The site is unobjectionable, except that the soil consists chiefly of clay, which could not have been easily avoided, as almost the whole district of Hamilton is alike in this respect. The construction of the prison is comparatively good, although far from perfect. Exclusive of the keeper's house, the prison consists of an oblong building divided into 3 stories, each story containing 2 rows of cells with a wall and double passage between them. Including a room called the debtors' hall, which is formed by throwing 2 cells into 1, there are altogether 43 cells, but many of them are too small to be of much use. The following are the dimensions:—

Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
26	9	7½	8½	570
16	7½	3½	8½	220
1	19½	13	8½	2100
43				

Present state.

There is an airing-yard which surrounds the whole building. Owing to the clayey nature of the soil, and to the want of the means of thoroughly warming the prison (a few open fires in separate cells being the only provision at present), and owing also, probably, to the building being still new, many of the cells and passages are far from being dry or warm, especially in wet weather, when, indeed, some of them are both damp and cold. The ventilation appears to be tolerably good, and I found the whole of the prison clean. The prison itself is

secure; at least it would be so if visits to prisoners were not allowed, or were put under greater restriction than at present. From the airing-yard, however, escape is not difficult, especially as the prisoners pass much of their time there in breaking stones, and are, of course, furnished with hammers. The last instance of escape took place about six months ago, when one of the prisoners, by means of his hammer, broke off the padlock from the outer gate. He invited five other prisoners who were in the yard at the time to run off with him, but none of them would do so, notwithstanding one was under a charge of rape. An attempt at escape (which, however, was unsuccessful) was made three months ago. In this case a prisoner had been supplied with files and a small saw by his wife, who came to see him, and during the night he succeeded in sawing through one of the bars of his window; but a prisoner in a neighbouring cell, who heard him at work, gave information the next morning to the keeper. Insecurity.

Prisoners.—There were 22 prisoners at the time of my visit, which is three or four more than the average, since the new prison was opened. The total number last year was 230, viz., 196 criminals (170 males and 26 females), 33 debtors (29 males and 4 females), and 1 revenue prisoner (a male). These are exclusive of about 15, confined each a single night for drunkenness, &c. I found only 1 debtor, and he was in for the aliment of a bastard child. The others were criminals, 3 of whom were females. Of the 15 criminal prisoners, 6 were waiting for trial. Most of the prisoners were clean, but some were dirty. Prisoners.

Health.—The health of the prisoners appears to be generally good, and upon the whole to improve during the period of confinement. Indeed, the sheriff said that he had sometimes had a difficulty in recognising prisoners when they were brought to trial, so much had their appearance altered for the better. Typhus fever, however (which seems to be rather common at Hamilton), has already appeared twice in the prison, though in one instance it did not originate there. No one actually died in the prison, but 1 man, who was liberated on account of his illness, died soon after. Health.

Food.—The gaoler contracts to feed the prisoners and to wash for them. He receives 6*d.* a-day for each, of which about 5½*d.* may be considered the allowance for the food, and the remaining ½*d.* the allowance for the washing. The dietary adopted is that of the Glasgow bridewell, slightly modified. The breakfast consists of 10¾ oz. of oatmeal, made into porridge, with some milk; and the dinner of 4 oz. of barley made into broth (with marrow-bones, vegetables, and seasoning), and 11 oz. of bread, except to the females and to the boys under 12 years of age, who get only 7 oz. of bread. The barley and bread are weighed, but it has not been the practice to weigh the oatmeal. I received no complaint, however, about either the quality or the quantity of the food; and if there be any error it is evidently on the side of feeding the prisoners too well. Additional supplies from friends without are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler, except fermented liquor, which is altogether excluded. Food.

Bedding.—A hammock, a straw mattress, a double sheet, a pair of blankets, and a rug. The bedding was all clean.—There is no supply of body-clothing except in cases of destitution. Bedding.

Discipline.—The discipline has hitherto been lax, the principle of separation having been often neglected, even to the mixture of tried and untried prisoners, and there having been much irregularity in the quantity of work performed. In summer the prisoners rise at 6; but in the remaining part of the year the time varies with the length of the day. Eight is the appointed hour for going to bed, but in winter the prisoners are locked up as soon as it is dark, and they can then go to bed when they choose. Thus even in summer too much time is passed in bed, and habits of laziness are fostered. A few of the prisoners are employed in spinning and weaving, but most of them work at breaking stones. In this latter occupation, however, the prisoners labour only in alternate parties; and sometimes, on account either of the badness of the weather or the want of material, almost all are idle. The work proves more productive than could be expected under these circumstances. Last year the prisoners (including the untried, whose work is voluntary) earned on an average 2*l.* each. There is no instruction in the prison. The prisoners are supplied with bibles, but with no other books. Public worship appears to have been performed once in about two months. The most common prison offence is singing and making noises, but this offence seems to be generally disregarded. The only punishment is confinement in a separate cell. The general order of the prison is far from perfect. I heard singing several times, and found one prisoner who had just been smoking. Discipline. Prison hours. Work. Instruction. Offences, &c.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer; and females are not in any way treated differently from males, except in the allowance of bread at dinner. Females.

Debtors.—The average number of debtors last year was between 2 and 3. The usual allowance for aliment is 1*s.* per day. Debtors provide their own bedding. Supplies of food from without, and visits from friends, are freely allowed. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—Untried prisoners are not required to work, but until they are fully committed they are under greater restrictions, as regards visits from friends, than convicted prisoners. Visits to the generality of prisoners are permitted every day, except Sunday, at the discretion of the gaoler; but no visitor is allowed to enter a cell. Letters are inspected. Smoking is contrary to rule (except as regards debtors), but, as has already appeared, the habit is in fact sometimes indulged in. Visits, &c. Smoking.

Officers.—The gaoler is the only officer. He appears to be an intelligent and respectable man, and is considered trustworthy; but he has been so long accustomed to a bad and disorderly prison (the old one at Hamilton), that it must be difficult for him so to alter his ideas and habits as to be qualified for the efficient management of a well-regulated prison. The want of an assistant, too, and the defects in the construction of the prison, &c., act against him. I received no complaint of unkind treatment; indeed he errs on the side of indulgence. There is no chaplain, and no appointed surgeon, but one of the medical men of the town kindly acts gratuitously. Gaoler.

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Hamilton.

Fees.
Accounts.

Fees.—There is a fee of from 2*s.* to 1*l.* from the imprisoning creditor, which is paid into the burgh funds. A debtor also who applies for aliment has to pay a fee of 5*s.* to the town-clerk; and the gaoler receives a fee, varying from 6*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*, on giving a copy of a warrant of commitment, &c.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments according to the prescribed form. It is neat and apparently correct. The account of disbursements is kept by the town treasurer and the collector of cess for the county. The following is the expenditure for the year ending the 13th of April, 1837:—

Expenditure.

	£	s.	d.
Food	162	9	6
Washing, about	15	0	0
Repairs	0	6	8
Paid for pursuing a prisoner who had escaped	1	2	0
Keeper's salary	50	0	0
Medicines	0	14	6
	229	12	8
Received for the labour of the prisoners	46	6	0
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors	£183	6	8

(Of this sum 126*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* was paid by the county; and the remainder, 57*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*, by the burgh.)

Average number of prisoners during the year about 21; namely, 18½ criminals, 2¼ debtors, and $\frac{1}{16}$ revenue prisoner.

Cost per head.

Gross average cost of each criminal prisoner during the year about 12*l.* Average cost, deducting the value of his labour (2*l.*), about 10*l.* Daily net cost about 6½*d.*

General observation.

General Observation.—Although there is much room for improvement, this prison appears to have had considerable effect as a check to crime in the burgh and in the middle ward generally.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

December, 1837.

Improvements.

I had a meeting with the magistrates before leaving Hamilton, and submitted to them the following recommendations; though I did not expect some of the proposals to be adopted in consequence of their expense. I have this day (21st March, 1838) received a letter from the town-clerk, informing me that the matter was brought before a joint meeting of the magistrates and town-council a short time ago, and that he had been instructed to inform me "that the gaoler had been directed strictly to attend to Mr. Hill's recommendations so far as practicable; but that the town had not funds to enable them to adopt all Mr. Hill's suggestions."

The notes accompanying the recommendations are by the town-clerk, and show how far they have been carried into effect:—

	Remarks.
1. The whole of the prison to be warmed.	Not done, farther than by keeping fires in each of the fire-places in the gaol.
2. Gas to be introduced into all the cells; or, as a temporary arrangement, some common tin lamps to be procured, with which to light up such of the cells as are occupied.	Not done.
3. The gaoler to be allowed an assistant.	Not done.
4. The female prisoners to be placed under the immediate charge of the gaoler's wife; she being allowed a small salary for her trouble,	The gaoler's wife attends to female prisoners. No allowance made for her trouble.
5. A number of separate places to be constructed in the yard, in which prisoners may be employed in breaking stones without being able to see one another, and where there shall be no danger of their escape.	Not done.
6. An arch to be turned over the iron rails on either side of the gate; and a wall to be carried above the arch as high as the neighbouring wall, so as to prevent escape at these places.	Not done.
7. A wash-house to be put up.	Not done.
8. *Separation.*—The prisoners to be kept entirely separate; no two prisoners being ever put into the same cell or allowed to see each other, or to hold communication of any kind, except in cases of absolute necessity arising from insufficient accommodation.	Attended to, as far as the state of the prison will permit.
9. *Work.*—In-door work of a simple kind, such as picking oakum, &c., to be provided for the colliers and others, when, owing to the state of the weather or the shortness of the day, they cannot be fully employed in breaking stones.	The only in-door work yet got is weaving; with sewing or tambouring for females.
10. *Inspection.*—The present holes in the cell doors to be stopped up, and inspection holes made in their stead.	Not done.
11. *Food.*—The quality of the food to be brought down to that of the Glasgow Bridewell. The gaoler to cease to have any interest in the supply of	No alteration, but the suggestion will be attended to at the expiry of the present agreement (Whitsunday).

	Remarks.
food, but to receive a certain allowance for the trouble and expense of cooking, &c.; the meal, barley, bread, &c., to be henceforth supplied by contract according to given samples of quality.	
12. *Clothing.*—A few complete suits of clothes of different sizes, including linen, &c. (both for males and females), to be procured, and the gaoler to be instructed to take a prisoner's own clothes from him when they are ragged, or for any other reason are unsuitable, and to give him one of these prison dresses. The prisoner, however, to give up the prison dress on his leaving the gaol, and to have his own back.	Several suits of clothes got.
13. *Cleanliness.*—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly once every day, and to go into the bath once every week. This to be done by the male prisoners in presence of the gaoler or his assistant; and by the females in presence of the gaoler's wife.	Attended to.
14. Smoking and chewing tobacco to be entirely prohibited.	Attended to.
15. *Instruction.*—A clergyman or other qualified person to be engaged to give the prisoners moral and religious instruction (always, however, in their separate cells), and the gaoler's assistant or the gaoler's wife, as the case may be, to teach reading to such of the prisoners as are unable to read easily.	No clergyman engaged. The clergymen of the town visit occasionally.
16. *Visits.*—Visits to untried prisoners to be restricted to some one day in the week, and to certain hours on that day. Visits to convicted prisoners to be altogether prohibited, except under very peculiar circumstances, as at present.	Attended to.
The foregoing regulations apply to females equally with males.	Attended to.
Exceptions.—The regulations do not extend to debtors (except that forbidding smoking), and the rule respecting visitors does not apply to the legal adviser of an untried prisoner.	Attended to.
17. *Miscellaneous.*—A regular engagement to be entered into with a medical man for the care of sick prisoners. Such person to keep a sick-list. (The gaoler to keep the sick-list until a medical man is engaged.)	Not done, but a medical man visits every prisoner who is unwell.
18. The gaoler to keep a record of all offences and punishments.	Attended to.
19. The prison to be white-washed regularly twice a-year.	Will be attended to.
20. Each prisoner to be provided with a small thick mat to stand on, in order to protect him from the cold.	Not done.
21. The following, among the printed regulations, which have hitherto been wholly or partially neglected, to be henceforth strictly enforced. Nos. 7 and 11 among the "special regulations for prisoners in the debtors' division of the gaol," Nos. 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13 (discontinuing corporal punishment of every kind, and immersion in the cold bath), 14, and 15 (in Bridewell department of gaol), the same being extended to the *whole* department for criminals.	Attended to.
22. Mr. Brebner, the Governor of the Glasgow bridewell, to be requested to visit the prison from time to time, in order to see that everything, especially the work department, is going on properly.	Not done as yet.

State of Crime at Hamilton.—There appears to be but little crime or tumult here. The most common offences are petty breaches of the peace (arising from drunkenness) and petty thefts. Fifteen or 20 years ago housebreaking and bad assaults were rather common, but these are now rare, and in every respect there appears to have been a marked improvement. Crime, &c.

The following is reported to be the criminal population of Hamilton:—20 thieves, mostly young, and most of them members of one of 4 families, 3 of which are Irish; four receivers of stolen goods (3 of them Irish); about a dozen prostitutes, some of them belonging to the bad families already mentioned. There are many boys who rob orchards, but who do not steal in any other way, and who probably do not look upon their offence as criminal. There are no habitual brawlers. Number of offenders.

Most of the offenders are between 12 and 25 years old. As already mentioned, drunkenness is the cause of almost all the breaches of the peace; and the desire to obtain whiskey is the Causes of crime.

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Hamilton.
Police.

immediate cause also of many of the thefts. With few exceptions, the offenders have bad parents, and are observed to be below others in the same rank of life, in education. As a class, the carters are said to commit most offences. Few of the carters, however, belong to Hamilton, though they often drive through it; and it is stated generally that the chief offenders are strangers.

Police. — Much improved within the last 2 years, though still on too small a scale. There is one excellent officer whose services are obtained for the moderate salary of 22*l.* per annum and a suit of clothes. He was formerly in the army.

STRATHAVEN, LANARKSHIRE.

Strathaven.

Population about 4000.

Construction, &c.

The small prison of Strathaven consists of two cells in the upper story of the Town-house. Till within the last two years the building was, I believe, in a ruinous state; but the Duke of Hamilton, who is the superior of the burgh, has lately had it repaired. The two cells are each 7¾ feet long, 6½ feet broad, and 7 feet high; their cubical content, therefore, is about 350 feet. There has been no escape since the place was repaired; but escape would not be difficult if the prisoner had any associate on the outside, who would hand him in a tool, which could be readily done through the window. I was able to examine only one of the cells, as some person had been allowed to put a quantity of goods into the other, and had possession of the key. I was told, however, that the cells were alike. The cell I examined was clean and moderately dry; but it was cold, the air-hole which serves as a window, being unglazed, and there being no kind of artificial warmth.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—This being a prison of a burgh of barony, debtors are not received, and I was assured that no criminal is ever detained more than 24 hours, although the power of the Baron Bailie extends beyond that time. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I learnt that there were only three during the whole of last year. No register, however, is kept.

Food and Bedding.

Food and Bedding.—There is no provision for feeding the prisoners, and there is no bedding of any kind.

Gaoler.

Officer.—The officer who has charge of the prison appears to be a respectable man, but he says that he is not paid any thing for his trouble.

Police.

Police.—A few of the inhabitants have formed themselves into a police corps, but there is no paid and responsible officer. An efficient resident magistrate too is wanted.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of a Baron Bailie, appointed by the Duke of Hamilton.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime.—There appears to be little crime here. Of the offences which are committed the most common are of petty thefts (such as stealing poultry, potatoes, &c.), and drunken brawls.

December, 1837.

LANARK, LANARKSHIRE.

Lanark.

Population about 4200; or, including a district of four miles in radius, about 10,000.

Site, construction, &c.

This prison was built about the same time (three years ago) and under the authority of the same act of parliament, as that of Hamilton; the latter being intended for the middle ward of the county, and the former for the upper ward. The Lanark prison is not so large as that at Hamilton, but it is on a better construction. Its construction, indeed, is better than that of any prison in Scotland, with the exception of the Glasgow Bridewell. Like the Hamilton prison, the one at Lanark stands in the outskirts of the town behind the county buildings; but owing to the soil being much freer from clay about Lanark than about Hamilton, the site of the prison is much dryer. Nevertheless, owing to the want of the means of warming the building, and owing probably also to its newness, many of the cells and passages are damp, though not nearly so damp as in the Hamilton prison. The cost of the Lanark prison was about 3000*l.*; that is about one-half of the whole cost of the county buildings and prison together. There are 21 cells for criminals, with 4 cells and 2 day-rooms for debtors. The dimensions are as follows:

Criminal Cells.	Length.	Breadth.	Height.	Cubical Content.
	Feet.	Feet.	Feet.	Feet.
19	9	8	10	720
2	9	7½	10	670
Debtors' Cells, &c.				
4	9	8	10	720
2	17	15	10	2500
27				

Present state.

There is an airing yard 60 feet long and 36 feet broad, and surrounded by a wall about 25 feet high. This is at the debtors' end of the prison; and round the rest of the building there is a passage (in some parts of considerable width), bounded by an equally high wall, which might be divided into several small airing yards. Until lately the prison was, I believe, often very dirty; but a new keeper was engaged about two months ago, and since then the place appears to have been clean. I made a short examination of the prison just when the change of keepers was taking place, and it certainly had then the appearance of having been under

bad management; for example—the plaster in some of the cells was much scribbled on and cut. On my return, however, I found the cells in neat order and newly white-washed. The ventilation is tolerably good, but the same reason which makes some parts of the prison, damp, makes the place cold also. With a few slight changes, and by giving the gaoler an assistant, the prison might be made secure, but at present it is certainly insecure. There was an instance of escape about 15 months ago. It was on the part of a debtor, who, finding his own door open, unceremoniously walked into the keeper's house, took the key of the outer gate and marched off*.

Prisoners.—There were twelve at the time of my visit,—namely, 11 criminals and 1 debtor. This has been about the average number since the new prison was opened; but it is much greater than the average in the old prison, which is accounted for by the fact that justice was not, and could not be fully administered formerly, owing to a strong and natural aversion to immure people in so bad a gaol. The total number of prisoners last year, was 132; viz., 126 criminals (117 males and 9 females), 5 debtors (4 males and 1 female,) and 1 revenue prisoner (a male). It is probable that a few, who remained only one night, are omitted in this enunciation.—Two of the criminals, at the time of my visit, were females, but the other prisoners were all males. Prisoners.

The keepers assured me that every prisoner washed himself once each day, and in his presence. I am sorry, however, to have to state that by my private examination of the prisoners I found that this was not true. Some were in the habit of washing themselves only two or three times a-week, and they seldom did even this in the presence of the keeper. The prisoners nevertheless were much cleaner than at my last visit.

Health.—Notwithstanding the dampness of part of the prison the general health of the inmates appears to be tolerably good. There has been no death, and no epidemic, since the prison was opened; and no diseases appear to have been at all prevalent. Hitherto, however, there has been no sick list, there not having been any regular surgeon; but a medical appointment has been now made. Health.

Food.—The food is supplied in the same way as at Hamilton. The keeper receives 5*d.* a-day for some prisoners, and 6*d.* a-day for others; and for this he has to feed them according to stated rations, and to supply them with clean linen. The breakfast consists of 10 ouuces of oatmeal, made into porridge, with about half a pint of milk or small beer; and the dinner of 4 ounces of barley, made into broth, with marrow-bones, vegetables, and seasoning, and 10 ounces of bread, or 3½ pounds of potatoes. There does not appear to be any sufficient security for these quantities being actually given, but I do not suspect fraud. The prisoners made no complaint to me about their food, and I did not hear of their having ever complained to any one else. The printed regulations allow of supplies of food from without, under certain restrictions; but, in practice, such supplies appoar to have been entirely prohibited. Food.

Bedding.—A hammock, a straw mattress and pillow, a sheet, a double blanket, and a rug. Most of the bedding was clean, but some of it was rather dirty, which is probably owing in part to its having been left in the cells during the day. The bed clothes are not washed at any stated periods.—There is no supply of body clothing. Bedding.

Discipline.—The discipline is as yet far from satisfactory. Cleanliness, as has been seen, is not enforced; separation is but very imperfectly acted upon, notwithstanding the number of cells appears to have been always sufficient to give one to each prisoner; and the quantity of work done is quite too small. These evils must, in part, be attributed to the keeper, but they are owing still more to the circumstance of the prison not being lighted or warmed, to the difficulty of obtaining productive employment for prisoners at Lanark, and to the want of an assistant gaoler. Although, on the first day of my second visit I made my round, a little before four o'clock in the afternoon, I found several of the prisoners in bed. There is no provision for instruction; but all the prisoners are supplied with religious tracts, and some, though not all, with bibles. The most common prison offence at the present time, appears to be singing and making noises. The usual punishment is the stoppage of a meal. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and female prisoners are treated in no way differently from males. Females.

Debtors.—The average number of debtors last year was rather less than one. The usual allowance for aliment is 10*d.* a day. Supplies of food from without are freely permitted, as are visits from friends. Debtors provide their own bedding. Debtors.

Miscellaneous —No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed, at the discretion of the gaoler, on one day of the week. Letters are examined. Smoking is prohibited to criminals, but not to debtors. Visits, &c. Smoking.

* Another escape took place a few days after this Report was drawn up. Two prisoners had been set to break stones *together* in the passage which runs round the greater part of the prison, and which communicates directly with the keeper's house. One of the men came into the house (being probably sent to reconnoitre) and asked where the keeper was, and on being told that he was out, returned to his companion; and soon after the latter (who is a hardened offender and was under sentence of confinement for a considerable period) managed to climb up to the top of the building and to get on the outer wall, from which he descended by means of a hay-rick, which had been considerately placed so as greatly to facilitate his escape. The only matter of surprise in this business is, that the prisoner took the trouble of scrambling up to the top of the building, seeing that he had nothing to do but to take possession of the keys (which in the absence of the keeper are left in the hands of a servant girl) and let himself out, together with such other prisoners as chose to accompany him. January, 1838.

The man whose escape is noticed above was recaptured after a time, in consequence, I believe, of his taking part in the College riot at Edinburgh. He was sent back to the Lanark prison, *but he has again forced his way out*, having, I am informed, been once more allowed to associate with another prisoner, with whose assistance he overpowered the gaoler. March, 1838.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Lanark.

Officers.

Officers.—The keeper appears to be an active and intelligent man, but it will be seen by the first part of this Report that his statements cannot be fully relied on. Owing to his not having the necessary assistance, and to other causes, it is difficult to say how far he is to blame for the present state of discipline &c. He resides in the prison. There is no chaplain. A surgeon has lately been appointed, who attends when sent for.

Fees.

Fees.—An imprisoning creditor pays a fee of 1*s.* to the town-clerk, and a debtor on petitioning for aliment, pays various fees, amounting generally to 10*s.* or 12*s.*

Accounts.

Accounts.—The Register of Imprisonments has hitherto been kept by the town clerk. The age of the prisoners has been generally omitted, but excepting this, and a few other occasional omissions, the Register appears to be accurate, and it has been kept in the prescribed form. The gaoler nominally keeps a Record of offences and punishments, and an account of the cost of each prisoner sentenced to hard labour. Few entries, however, have hitherto been made. The Account of Expenditure is kept by the town treasurer. The following is the Expenditure for the year ending the 14th October, 1836:—

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Food	99	7	8½
Candles and fuel	13	7	8
Washing, about	11	8	8
Straw	0	2	6
Repairs	0	15	4
Sundries	0	10	10
Keeper's salary	21	15	0
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors and revenue prisoners	£147	7	8½

(Of this sum 103*l.* 7*s.* 8½*d.* was paid by the burgh; the remainder (44*l.*) is claimed from the county, but the claim is in part resisted.)

Average number of prisoners during the year about 14; namely, 13¼ criminals, ¾ debtor, and 1/16 revenue prisoners.

Cost per head.

Average cost of each prisoner during the year about 11*l.* Daily cost about 7*d.*

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the burgh magistrates.

December, 1837.

Improvements.

Before leaving Lanark I had a meeting with the magistrates and with the commissioners, for building the prison; and I recommended the following measures. The annexed remarks by the town-clerk show how far these measures have been carried into effect:—

	Remarks.
1. The whole of the prison to be warmed and lighted.	It has been resolved to light the prison with gas by which it will be also warmed, and the pipes have been ordered, but the long-continued frost and snow prevented the operations going on. It will be forthwith done.
2. The gaoler to be allowed an assistant.	From the small number of prisoners (not exceeding 5 or 6) since Mr. Hill's memorandum, an assistant has not been allowed.
3. An entrance to be made from the prison into the back yard, and a door to be opened between this yard and the debtors' yard. A wall and door to be put up in a line with the females' part of the prison, so as to make the back yard secure.	The debtors' wall is in the course of being considerably reduced, and a wall as recommended in the latter part, is contracted for.
4. *Prison Hours.*—The prisoners to rise at 5 in summer and 6 in winter; and to go to bed at 9 all the year round.	Attended to.
5. *Separation.*—The prisoners to be kept entirely separate: no two prisoners being ever put into the same cell, or allowed to see each other, or to hold communication of any kind, except in cases of absolute necessity, arising from insufficient accommodation.	This was most strictly enjoined, but in one instance was disregarded by the gaoler, in consequence of which he was overpowered by Rennie and Kane, two prisoners, the latter of whom again escaped.
6. *Work.*—The daily quantity for each prisoner to be estimated at 10 hours' labour.—As much indoor work to be obtained as possible, so long as there are no means of separating those who are employed at breaking stones, &c.	This attended to. In-door work difficult to be had.
7. *Food.*—The gaoler to cease to have any interest in the supply of food, but to receive a certain allowance for the trouble of cooking, &c. The meal, barley, bread, &c. to be bought by contract. Supplies of food from without to be altogether prohibited.	This will be adopted by the magistrates, so far as that the gaoler shall cease to have any interest in the supply of food—but from the small number of prisoners hitherto it has not yet been done.
8. *Clothing.*—A few complete suits of clothes of different sizes (both for males and females) to be procured; and the keeper to be instructed to take a prisoner's own clothes from him when they are ragged, or are, for any other reason, unsuitable;	A pattern-dress has been got, and several suits ordered.

	Remarks.
and to give him one of the prison dresses. The prisoner, however, when leaving the gaol, to give up this prison dress, and to have his own back.	
9. *Cleanliness.*—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every day and to go into the bath once every week. The male prisoners to do this in the presence of the gaoler or his assistant.	Attended to—excepting going into the bath every week.
10. *Smoking and Chewing Tobacco* to be entirely prohibited.	Attended to.
11. *Instruction.*—A clergyman or other qualified person to be engaged to give the prisoners moral and religious instruction (always, however, in their separate cells); and the gaoler's assistant (or his wife in the case of females) to teach reading to such of the prisoners as are unable to read easily.	A clergyman attends occasionally.
12. *Visits.*—Visits to convicted prisoners to be altogether prohibited, except under very peculiar circumstances, and then only to be allowed, on an order granted by the provost, the visiting magistrate, or the sheriff.	Strictly attended to.
The foregoing Regulations to apply to females equally with males.	Attended to.
Exceptions.—The Regulations not to extend to debtors, except that forbidding smoking.	Attended to.
13. *Miscellaneous.*—The gaoler to keep the register of imprisonments, and to keep a record also of all offences and punishments.	Gaoler keeps registers as recommended.
14. Each prisoner to be provided with a small thick mat to stand on, in order to protect him from the cold.	Mats obtained.
15. The gaoler to have authority to make small changes which he deems necessary, but to be required to report them at the next meeting of the magistrates, and at the same time, to report for the consideration of the magistrates such other alterations as he may think advisable.	Adopted.
16. The following among the printed regulations, which have been wholly or partially neglected, to be hereafter strictly enforced:— No 3, in "general regulations. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 12 (discontinuing corporal punishment of every kind however, and immersion in the cold bath, and limiting the time during which the gaoler can punish on his own authority, to one day), 13, 14, and 17, among the "regulations for criminals sentenced to hard labour." No. 1 among the "Rules applicable to criminals subject to imprisonment only."	Attended to.
17. Mr. Brebner the Governor of the Glasgow Bridewell, to be requested to visit the prison from time to time, in order to see that every thing, especially the work department, is going on properly.	Mr. Brebner engaged to visit the gaol after the frost and snow should go away, and is expected soon.

March, 1838.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Lanark.—It was stated that there is much crime and disturbance of a petty kind here, and occasionally assaults of a serious description. The state of the police was not sufficiently good, however, to enable me to obtain trustworthy information as to the number of offenders. Most of the thieves are said to be from 12 to 25 years old, and most of the brawlers from 15 to 30. Idle habits and the love of whiskey are stated to be the chief causes of the thefts. The brawls all arise from drunkenness. The parents of the young thieves (few of those of the other offenders are known) are mostly of bad character. Most of the offenders are below others in the same rank of life, in education. Many are resident inhabitants, but yet more are said to be strangers or persons remaining only a short time in the place. Many are Irish or of Irish extraction. There is one very bad family in the town.

Causes of Crime.

BIGGAR, LANARKSHIRE.

Biggar.

Population about 1,500; or, including a district 5 miles in radius, between 4,000 and 5,000.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Biggar is a miserable dungeon, in which it is wrong to confine a human being even for an hour. It consists of a vaulted room, which is at the same time very damp and very cold. In wet weather the rain comes in through the arch, as is shown very plainly by the white and mouldy appearance of the upper part of the cell. Besides being wet and cold I found the place very dirty. It is also insecure, which, however, under the circumstances of the case, is a redeeming trait. This dungeon is 18½ feet long, 13 feet broad, and 14 feet high.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Biggar.

There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit. The officer who has the care of the place stated, that there is on an average, about one prisoner per week; but that no one is ever kept more than 24 hours. I was informed, however, that his statements cannot be relied on. He was thought greatly to have exaggerated the number of prisoners, but there is no record to refer to for trustworthy information. There is no regular provision for feeding the prisoners, and I fear they sometimes go without food. Loose straw is given for bedding, but the gaoler admitted that the straw is allowed to remain in the prison till it becomes damp. If it never remains longer it must indeed be changed frequently.

Gaoler.

The prison is in the charge of a sheriff's officer of indifferent character. As yet, however, he has received nothing for his trouble. It is under the jurisdiction of a Baron Bailie, appointed by Admiral Fleming, the Superior of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Biggar.—There is a great deal of crime here (consisting chiefly of stealing), and during the last 20 years the amount appears to have increased. The offenders are said to be of various ages, and most of their parents to be of very bad character. Most of the offenders call themselves weavers, but few of them have in fact, any stated and proper occupation. The greater part appear to be inhabitants, but many of the offences, especially of those committed in the neighbourhood, are by tinkers. There is one large family at Biggar, whose regular occupation is stealing. The father is a notorious thief, and has been one all his life; and it is to be regretted that he was not efficiently dealt with when young, and if cure were found impossible, kept in prison permanently, for then the progeny of thieves to which he has given birth, would not have come into existence. Several of his children are now married, and as their character remains the same, and their husbands or wives appear to be as bad as themselves, the evil will probably be propagated still farther. There are two other bad families in Biggar.

Police.

Police.—There is no person except the sheriff's officers already mentioned, and he acts only in serious cases, and when he expects to be paid for the particular duty. Some of the inhabitants have been talking of raising a subscription to pay a proper officer, but nothing has yet been done. If it were not for the general arrangements in Scotland for the prosecution of serious crime, Biggar and its neighbourhood would be in a very lawless state, there being in it at present neither a proper prison, a proper police officer, nor an efficient resident magistrate.

December, 1837.

CARNWATH, LANARKSHIRE.

Carnwath.

Population about 700; or, including a district 3 miles in radius, about 1000.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Carnwath consists of two cells on the ground-floor of the town-house—an old building standing in the middle of the burgh. The size of these cells is as follows:—

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
1	12	8½	7½	750
1	12	6½	7½	600

There is no fire-place in either of them. The window of one is unglazed, and the other cell —which, however, is very seldom used—is without a window. The cells are damp and cold, and that which has no window is very ill ventilated. The place was, however, tolerably clean. It is not sufficiently secure for any but petty offenders. The last instance of escape took place about five years ago. The prisoner made his way out by breaking his bedstead and using part of it as a battering ram.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—The prison is used for persons sentenced to confinement by the Baron Bailie, and for offenders who are on their road to Lanark. It is very seldom, however, that any one is kept longer than one night. Debtors, of course, are not received. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that there had not been one for three years.

Food and Bedding.

Food and Bedding.—The food is stated to consist of a two-penny loaf and a bottle of small beer for each prisoner; and it is said to be seldom the case for any one to remain long enough to require more than one meal. Loose straw is all that is given for bedding.

Gaoler.

Officer.—The Baron-Officer who has the care of the gaol has held his appointment for 50 years, and his father had it before him; he is now too old to be efficient.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the Baron Bailie, appointed by Sir Norman M. Lockhart, of Carnwath.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime at Carnwath.—With the exception of a few petty thefts, there appears to be little or no crime here, though in the neighbourhood there has lately been a good deal of stealing from farm-houses, especially by breaking into dairies. Drunken brawls were rather common 20 or 30 years ago, but there is now very seldom anything of the kind. Many of the weavers at Carnwath have plots of land in the neighbourhood which they cultivate in their leisure hours; and much good, moral as well as physical, is probably due to this circumstance.

Police.—The only efficient officer is a man who is paid by voluntary subscription to look after vagrants.

December, 1837.

DOUGLAS, LANARKSHIRE.

Douglas.

Population about 1200; or, including a district of 5 miles in radius, about 2000.

Construction, &c.

The prison of Douglas consists of a single small room on the ground-floor of the town-house —an old building. The room is 12 feet long, 9 feet broad, and 6½ feet high; its cubical content, therefore, is about 700 feet. It is dry and moderately ventilated, but it is cold, the sashes, which are moveable, not being generally in their place, and the chimney smoking so badly, that it is often necessary to put out the fire. I found the place dirty and slovenly, and it is but moderately secure. The last escape took place about 5 years ago; but on this occasion the prisoners (who were in confinement for disturbing the peace at an election) were rescued by a mob, who forced open the prison-door. Two tinkers tried to force their way out a few months ago, but they did not succeed. The stones, &c. which they had displaced were still lying about at the time of my visit.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—These consist of persons under punishment by the Baron Bailie, and of offenders who are on their road to Lanark. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told there had been only 5 during the last year, and that this is about an average number. No one, I was assured, is ever kept longer than a single night. When there are a man and woman at the same time, the woman, it was stated, is put into a lodging-house, in charge of a constable.

Food.

Food.—A two-penny loaf and a bottle of small beer twice a-day. The whole cost is 6*d.* Additional supplies from without cannot be prevented.

Bedding.

Bedding.—Loose straw, contained in a wooden frame.

Offences, &c.

Offences, &c.—The most common offences are making noises, breaking the things in the cell, and getting supplies of whisky. Punishment appears to be seldom inflicted.

Gaoler.

Officer.—The officer appears to be active and intelligent, and he is well spoken of. The state of the prison, however, was discreditable to him.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of a Baron Bailie, appointed by Lord Douglas.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c. at Douglas.—Generally speaking, there does not appear to be much crime or disorder here. The most common offences are petty thefts, acts of mischief, and drunken brawls.

Police.

Police.—The same man who has the care of the prison acts as a police-officer: he has already been described as intelligent and active: he is a sheriff's officer as well as a baron-officer. A resident magistrate is wanted at Douglas.

LANARKSHIRE.

Lanarkshire.

Population about 380,000.

Existing Prisons.

Prisons existing at present.—Fourteen,—namely, the county and city bridewell, and county and city gaol at Glasgow; the prisons of Hamilton and Lanark, (used respectively as gaols and houses of correction for the two burghs, and for the middle and upper wards); the Calton bridewell at Glasgow, (used both as a house of correction and lock-up house); the prison of Rutherglen, (used as a burgh prison, both for criminals and debtors); the prisons of Gorbals (Glasgow), Anderston (Glasgow), Airdrie, Strathaven, Biggar, Carnwath, and Douglas, (which are used as lock-up houses and prisons for very short periods of confinement); and the police prison at Glasgow.

Prisons wanted.

Prisons wanted.—An addition is required to the Glasgow bridewell, to make room for its own increased number of inmates, for the prisoners at present confined in the gaol (so as altogether to supersede the gaol), and for prisoners from other places. New small prisons are required at Rutherglen, Airdrie, Biggar, and Douglas, in lieu of the present ones. The prisons at Hamilton and Lanark, and the Calton Bridewell, must be rendered complete in several particulars, in which they are at present deficient. Alterations or new prisons are necessary in place of the present prisons of Gorbals, Anderston, Strathaven, and Carnwath, and of the Glasgow police prison; and small prisons are required for Carluke and Leadhills in the Upper Ward, where none exist at present.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime.—Almost the whole of the population of the lower ward of the county is collected at Glasgow, and the state of crime in this city was noticed in my last Report, page 109.

Middle Ward

There does not appear to be much positive crime in the middle ward, but many offences arise out of the combinations of the workmen there, as will be seen particularly, by referring to the Report on Airdrie. The most common offences besides these, are stated to be assaults arising from drunkenness and petty thefts. It is thought that, with the exception of offences connected with combinations, (which are said to be much more common now than formerly), crime has upon the whole been about stationary in this ward. The place most distinguished for

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Middle Ward.

offences is reported to be Airdrie and its neighbourhood; and the place where there is least crime and disorder, is said to be Strathaven.

Most of the offenders in the middle ward are reported to be from 15 to 35 years old. Those who break the peace are said to be noted for habits of drunkenness; and the desire to obtain whisky appears to be a common motive of theft. The brawlers seem to be chiefly among the miners and colliers. The offenders are reported to be generally much below others, in the same rank of life, in education. The miners and colliers appear to a considerable extent to be a floating population, and there are many Irish among them.

Upper Ward.

In the upper ward there appears to be a great difference in different districts in the amount of crime and tumult, the southern side of the ward being the best, and the eastern side the worst. The most common offences are assaults and thefts. It is stated, however, that there is now no highway robbery, and that few of the thefts are attended with personal violence.

Habits, &c., of the offenders.

The disturbers of the peace are reported to be, generally, from 17 to 30 years old; but the thieves are said to be of various ages. Most of the assaults appear to arise from drunkenness, (indeed, the procurator fiscal for the ward remembers no exception), and most of the thefts, also, seem to be committed by persons of drunken and dissipated habits. Most of the parents who are known are reported to have set a bad example to their children. The assaults are committed chiefly, it is stated, by miners, colliers, and carters; the thefts by tinkers (who much infest the eastern side of the ward), and by hand-loom weavers. The thieves are generally found to be very ignorant, but the same observation is not made on those convicted of assaults. The offenders seem to run very much in families.

Places distinguished.

The places most distinguished for assaults appear to be Carluke (where there are iron works), and Crossford, (where there are coal mines). The village and parish of Biggar, and the parish of Carnwath, (exclusive of the village), are distinguished for thefts, house-breakings, &c.; and it is believed that a good many offences are committed by the weavers of Kirkfieldbank, (chiefly by *tramps* however). The place most distinguished in this ward, or, indeed, in the whole county, for the absence of crime and disorder, is New Lanark; where the same enlightened interest appears to exist as formerly, in the education, comforts, and amusements of the work-people. The procurator fiscal for the upper ward reports, that the only two offences that have come to his knowledge in the last six years, are one of house-breaking (unaccompanied with personal violence), by two boys, and a case of embezzlement by a woman. In addition to these, however, it is believed that there are some cases in which the offenders have been dismissed from the mills as their punishment.

Police.

Police.—A well organized and efficient police is very much wanted in this county, especially to prevent parties of the work-people from tyrannizing over their companions, and over such others as are willing to work at the market price of labour.

December, 1837.

LEITH, EDINBURGHSHIRE.

Leith.

Population about 26,000.

The prison of Leith, which forms part of the town-house, and which was built a few years ago, has never been legalized, and has therefore never been brought into use. The reason for this delay was, I believe, the insecurity of that part of the prison which is intended for

Construction, &c.

debtors, and which is much the largest portion. The floors of this division of the gaol are made of wood, and the ceilings are of lath and plaster; and there is no doubt that in its present state it is really insecure. There are four sleeping rooms and one day-room for debtors, and two sleeping cells and one day-room for criminals. The dimensions are as follows:—

Debtors' Rooms.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical content.
1	16	10	9	1440
1	12	10½	9	1130
1	12	11	9	1200
1	9	5	9	400
Day-room	21¼	15¼	9	2900
Criminals' cells, &c.				
2	8	7	8½	480
Day-room	12½	12	8½	1300
8				

Present state.

These rooms and cells are on the upper floor of the town-house. They appear to be dry, and, with the exception of the two cells for criminals, tolerably well ventilated. The two day rooms, and three of the other debtors' rooms have fire places. Most of the windows look upon the street; and unless screens were put up, communication could be carried on with the outside. The accommodation for debtors appears to be more than sufficient, but that for criminals is miserably small; and owing to its insecurity it would not be easy to convert any part of the debtors' side into a prison for criminals.

Police Cells.

Police cells.

Besides the prison above described, there are eight police cells, and a room for vagrants.

These, however, are not in the town-house, but in the county hall. The dimensions of these cells, &c., are as follows :—

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical contents. Ft.
4	7	6	9	380
2	6½	4½	9	260
1	6	4½	9	230
1	11	6	9	600
Room for Beggars, &c.	16	11	10	1760
9				

Construction, &c. Present state.

These cells were built about ten years ago. They are not upon a good construction, and they are ill ventilated, and some of them are apparently damp. The room for beggars is the only one that can be warmed in any way. I found most of the cells dirty, particularly as respects the walls. There was an instance of escape about nine months ago, On this occasion the prisoner, who was a little boy, managed to get through a hole left between the cell and the passage to serve for a window. Since then, however, these holes have been reduced in size, and the cells appear to be now tolerably secure.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—The only persons confined are police prisoners for periods not exceeding three days ; all other prisoners being sent to the gaol or Bridewell at Edinburgh. There were five prisoners at the time of my visit (three males and two females), which I learned is about an average number; although during the whole year there appear to be no fewer than from 1000 to 1200 commitments. These however consist chiefly of one set of offenders confined time after time, and of drunken people put in for a single night. The prisoners were all dirty, not one of them having washed himself since he came in.

Food and Bedding.

Food and Bedding.—The food consists of three pennyworth of bread daily. The prisoners sleep on guard beds, in their own clothes, each being allowed a blanket in addition.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—This police establishment is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh.

Improvements.

I recommended the following alterations for the temporary improvement of these police cells; and the annexed remarks by the town-clerk show how far they have been carried into effect:—

1.—The cells to be whitewashed immediately, and to be henceforth whitewashed regularly once in three months.	1. Complied with.
2.—The cells to be kept constantly clean and neat.	2. Complied with.
3.—The ventilation of the room in which beggars are confined to be improved.	3. Under consideration of the Commissioners of Police.
4.—A bath to be provided; and every person arrested to be obliged to go into it unless he be quite clean.	4. Under consideration of the Commissioners of Police.
5.—Every prisoner to wash himself thoroughly each evening he remains in confinement, and not to receive his supper until he has obeyed this regulation.	5. Enforced.
6.—The prisoners to be kept separate as far as possible.	6. Enforced.
7.—Each cell to be furnished with a small thick mat, on which the prisoner may stand, and be protected from the cold of the floor.	7. Complied with.
8.—Every prisoner who shall misconduct himself in any way to lose one of his meals. No prisoner, however, to be deprived of more than a single meal in any one day, and every case of offence and punishment to be recorded.	8. Enforced.
The foregoing regulations to apply to females equally with males.	

March, 1838.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c. at Leith.—The following is the report of the intendant of police (who has the character of being an intelligent and efficient officer), revised by the Sheriff-substitute. During the last six years there have been very few heinous offences; although there have been a great many petty thefts, such as stealing linen left out to dry, stealing from shop doors, robbing shop tills, stealing ropes, &c., from vessels in the harbour and docks, stealing from lodging-houses (by strangers), and thefts in brothels by prostitutes. There has been one case of murder during the last ten years, but it was attended with mitigating circumstances. There has been also one alleged case of robbery with violence, but it is doubtful whether this offence was actually committed. There have been four cases of housebreaking, and two of shipbreaking in the last year ; but none of them were accompanied by personal violence, and in none of them was much property taken. With one exception, those concerned in this housebreaking and shipbreaking were apprehended ; and it appeared that all but one were strangers, most of them coming from Edinburgh; and it is stated generally that much of the robbery in Leith

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Leith.

Number of offenders.

is committed by Edinburgh thieves and other strangers. There is but little street rioting, and such as does take place is of a trifling kind. A great many thefts of the pettiest kind are committed by children who are sent out by their parents avowedly to beg and gather bones and rags, but who are probably instructed also to steal when they can. There are very few resident pickpockets in Leith, but when there is a launch or any other unusual attraction there is a plentiful supply of these fellows from Edinburgh. There are about 20 common male thieves from 12 to 20 years old, and 5 from 29 to 55 years old: 8 of these are at present in confinement. There are about 50 prostitutes, 10 of whom are reputed thieves; while most of the remainder steal when they have an opportunity. There are also 10 or 12 other female thieves of various ages who are not prostitutes; 4 of whom are at present in confinement. Some of the brokers are receivers of stolen goods, evasions of the pawnbroking act being easy.

December, 1837.

Pennycuick.

PENNYCUICK, EDINBURGHSHIRE.

Construction, &c.

The prison of this village consists of a single cell 8 feet square, and 12 feet high, and is on the ground-floor of an old church tower, which stands in the present churchyard on one side of the village. The place was adapted to its present use about seven years ago. The cell is rather damp, and I found it dirty. There is no provision for warming it, and the air hole, which serves as a window, is not glazed. The place is insecure also. About two years ago the lock was broken open (probably with assistance from the outside), and three men who were in confinement made their escape.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—Those received are persons sentenced to short periods of confinement by the Baron Bailie, and offenders who are apprehended with a view to their being forwarded to Edinburgh. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that there had been only two or three during the whole of the last year.

Food and Bedding.

Food and Bedding.—There is no stated allowance of food, but I was assured that in point of fact the prisoners are always sufficiently fed. Loose straw on a wooden frame is all that is allowed for bedding.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of a Baron Bailie appointed by Sir George Clerk, the Superior of the Burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c.—There are occasional instances of serious offences, but generally speaking there does not appear to be much crime or disturbance here. The chief offences are drunken squabbles and petty thefts. Three or four years ago however a man deliberately shot an officer who was trying to apprehend him; and a few weeks ago a young man suffering from disappointed love shot the young woman who had been the object of his affection. Upon the whole there appears to be less crime here than formerly; and the cause assigned for this is a less amount of drunkenness.

Number, &c., of the offenders.

There are 4 or 5 poachers in the village, and a few other persons of suspicious character. There are also some lads who occasionally commit petty offences. But it is stated that there are fewer people of bad character now than formerly. Some time ago there was a band of nine or ten tinkers living in the neighbourhood who committed many thefts; but they were driven away about two years ago, and they then went into Selkirkshire, which place having in turn become untenable, they moved off to Linlithgow. Some of the band have lately been arrested, and are now in prison.

Police.

Police.—A good police officer is much wanted. The young man who lately shot a woman remained at large during the whole of the succeeding night and part of the next day, everyone knowing that it was he who had committed the act, and knowing also where he was to be found. At the end of this interval the culprit destroyed himself.

December, 1837.

Lasswade.

LASSWADE, EDINBURGHSHIRE.

Construction, &c.

The prison of this village, like that of Pennycuick, is formed out of the tower of an old church, the place in which it stands still being used as a burying-ground. There are 2 cells, one on the ground floor and one on the floor above. They are each 9 feet square and 7 feet high, and contain therefore about 560 cubic feet each. The floors are of wood, and the gratings which serve as windows are unglazed. The place is not secure. The last escape was made about 12 months ago. I found the cells clean and dry, and they are tolerably ventilated, but there is no provision for warming them.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—This prison is used only as a lock-up house. There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit. The average number of prisoners in the course of a year I learned to be from 20 to 30.

Food and Bedding.

Food and Bedding.—There is no stated allowance of food, but I was assured that a proper supply is always made. The charge for feeding a prisoner is generally 6*d.* per day, and is paid by the county. There is no bedding of any kind.

Officer.

Officer.—The prison is in the charge of an unpaid constable. He is the blacksmith of the village, and appears to be intelligent and respectable. His motive for acting seems to be the

common interest which he has as an inhabitant in the protection of property and the preservation of the peace.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the county justices of the peace.

State of Crime, &c.—There appears to be a good deal of crime and disorder here, and the amount seems to be increasing. The chief offences are thefts and assaults. Many escape detection.

Crime, &c.

Most of the offenders are said to be from 12 to 24 years old, and to be generally distinguished for habits of drunkenness and the want of education. Many of their parents are of bad character. Few of the offenders appear to be resident inhabitants, most of them being colliers living round about,—many in the neighbouring village of Loanhead.

Offenders.

December, 1837.

DALKEITH, EDINBURGHSHIRE.

Dalkeith.

Population about 5500.

The prison of Dalkeith consists only of 2 rooms and a cell. They are in the building used as a Justice-of-Peace Court. This building is old, and the prison part of it is ill adapted to its purposes. It stands in the main street, and it must be impossible altogether to prevent communication between the prisoners and persons on the outside. The dimensions of the rooms, &c. are as follow :—

Construction, &c.

	Length.	Breadth.	Height.
1	16	14	12
1	16	14	8
"Black Hole"	13	11½	8

The two rooms have each a fire-place and window. The cell, which is called the Black Hole, also has a fire-place, but it has no window. There is however a grating over the door which opens into an adjoining passage. The two rooms (which are on the first floor) are dry, but the Black Hole (which is on the ground floor) is rather damp. The ventilation is not good. I found the place tolerably clean, and it appears to be tolerably secure; the last instance of escape was seven years ago.

Prisoners.—Those received are offenders sentenced by the Baron Bailie, and prisoners on their road to Edinburgh. There was no one in confinement at the time of my visit. About 30, I was told, are put in in the course of a year, most of them being persons taken up in a state of drunkenness, and few remaining more than a night.

Prisoners.

Food and Bedding.—The allowance of food is unusually great, and is more than is necessary or desirable. It consists of two penny loaves and a bottle of small beer three times a-day, the total cost being 9*d*. The prisoners sleep on guard-beds in their own clothes, and without any blankets.

Food and Bedding.

Discipline.—The division of males from females is all that is done by way of separation. There is no work. The usual prison offences are making noises, &c. when drunk.

Discipline.

Officer.—The prison is in the charge of a sheriff's officer, who also acts as a barony-officer. As barony-officer and gaoler he receives 5*l*. a-year; but he gets his chief income as sheriff's officer. He appears to be an intelligent and respectable man, and has the character of being efficient.

Gaoler.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of a baron bailie, appointed by the Duke of Buccleuch.

Jurisdiction.

State of Crime, &c. at Dalkeith.—There does not appear to be much serious crime here, but there are some petty thefts and many drunken brawls. Upon the whole there appears to be less crime and disorder here than there was 6 or 7 years ago, which is attributed to the appointment of the officer mentioned above.

Crime, &c.

It is stated that there are about half a dozen young men, from 18 to 30 years old, who steal and commit assaults, and that there are about a dozen boys who are always ready to steal. It appears also that there are 12 prostitutes, some of whom steal. These prostitutes however do not abandon themselves entirely to their disreputable course of life, all of them being partly engaged in honest occupations. Drunkenness is stated to be the chief cause of offences here. Some of the parents of the thieves are known to be bad themselves, and most of the others are said to have neglected their children. The offenders belong chiefly to Dalkeith, though many of them are colliers living in the neighbourhood.

Offenders.

Police.—A good town police is much wanted, the sheriff's officer, who has been spoken of, having duties elsewhere, and being frequently called away. There was a voluntary police organization among some of the inhabitants, but it has been lately broken up.

Police.

December, 1837.

MUSSELBURGH, EDINBURGHSHIRE.

Musselburgh.

Population nearly 7000, or, including that of Preston Pans, Cockenzie, and Portseaton, about 12,000.

The prison of Musselburgh forms part of the town-house, and is contained in the first and

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Musselburgh.

second stories. The building is old, and that part which is used as a prison is not well suited to its purposes. There is a debtors' room (with an outer room, in which debtors are allowed to walk during the day) and there are 2 cells for criminals. There is a long room also, which is occasionally, though seldom, used for criminals. The dimensions of these rooms and cells are as follow :—

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Contents. Ft.
Debtors' room	18½	17	11½	3600
Outer debtors' room	25½	14	11½	
Criminal cells.				
1	15½	8½	11½	1500
1	9½	6½	9½	600
Outer room	50	17¾	9¼	

Present state. The whole of the prison is dry, and it appears to be tolerably well ventilated. I found it remarkably clean also. The only room that is warmed in any way is the debtors' room, which is provided with a grate and fire-place. The criminals' cell which is chiefly used (the other being very insecure) is not merely without a fire-place, but the window is unglazed. No part of the prison can be considered quite secure. The last instance of escape happened 18 months ago. On this occasion the prisoner knocked down the gaoler, and having got the keys from him, locked him up in his own cell, and made off.

Prisoners. *Prisoners.*—Both debtors and criminals are received here; but criminal prisoners are seldom detained more than a day or two, offenders on serious charges being sent to Edinburgh. There was no one in prison at the time of my visit. The average number of late has been about 2, viz., 1 debtor and 1 criminal. The total number of prisoners last year was 176; viz., 147 criminals (106 males and 41 females), 28 debtors (26 males and 2 females), and 1 revenue prisoner (a male). The greatest number of prisoners at any one time was 10.

The gaoler stated that the prisoners wash themselves every morning, but the procurator fiscal for the burgh told me that he often found them dirty.

Health. *Health.*—This appears to be generally good. There was no case of serious illness last year. The most common complaint is said to be constipation of the bowels, brought on, probably, by the want of exercise and fresh air.

Food. *Food.*—Each prisoner has three penny loaves per day, and (except when sentenced to be fed on bread and water) three bottles of beer also. Additional supplies from without are allowed on an order from a magistrate.

Bedding. *Bedding.*—A straw mattress, 3 blankets, and a rug. The bedding was tolerably clean. —There is no supply of body-clothing.

Discipline. *Discipline.*—There is no work; and separation is seldom carried farther than dividing males from females, and debtors from criminals. The usual prison offences are calling to people in the street, getting supplies of whisky, making noises, and abusing the gaoler. The ordinary punishment is removal to the upper cell, which is less comfortable than the one generally used.

Females. *Female Prisoners.*—There is no female officer, and no difference is made in the treatment of males and females.

Debtors. *Debtors.*—The usual aliment allowed is 8*d.* per day, paid in money. Additional supplies from without and visits from friends are freely permitted. Debtors provide their own bedding, with the exception of the mattress, which belongs to the prison.

Visits, &c. Smoking. *Miscellaneous.* No difference is made between the tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed on an order from a magistrate. Letters are inspected. Debtors are permitted to smoke, but criminals are not.

Gaoler. *Officer.*—The gaoler, who acts also as a burgh officer, has a respectable appearance, but he seems to be rather dull, and is, I believe, somewhat given to drinking. There is a surgeon, who attends when sent for, and who calls occasionally when not applied to. He was from home at the time of my visit, and I did not therefore see him. There is no chaplain.

Fees. *Fees.*—The gaoler receives 6*d.* in the pound on any debt for which a person is imprisoned. This fee is paid by the creditor. He also claims 4*d.* per night from each debtor during his stay. This fee, however, appears to be frequently lost; payment is never enforced, so far as I could learn, by detaining the debtor, though the debtor's bed is sometimes kept for that purpose.

Accounts. *Accounts.*—There is a register of imprisonments containing several, though not all, of the usual entries, and containing also a description of the person of the prisoner. This is kept by the superintendent of police, who also keeps the account of expenditure. The following are the disbursements for the year ending the 12th of October, 1837 :—

Expenditure.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Food	8	14	9½
Bedding	1	13	0
Candles	0	2	0
Washing, about	0	5	0
Straw, about	0	3	0
Repairs	2	7	0
Sundries	0	11	9
Keeper's salary	20	0	0
Surgeon (including charge for medicines)	3	0	0
Total, exclusive of the aliment of debtors and revenue prisoners	£36	16	6½

Average number of prisoners during the year 2, viz., 1 criminal and 1 debtor.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the magistrates of the burgh. Jurisdiction.

State of Crime, &c., at Musselburgh.—There appears to be a good deal of petty crime and disorder here, but not many serious offences. The most common offences are petty thefts and drunken brawls, the latter occurring chiefly on the Saturday night and Sunday morning. There are occasional instances of shopbreaking, but they are not accompanied with personal violence. It is stated that there has been no robbery with violence for the last 10 years; and (excepting some suspicious circumstances respecting the death of a new-born infant) there has been no instance of murder within the same time. The period of 10 years is taken as being the time during which the present procurator fiscal has held his appointment. Crime, &c.

The following is a Return of the present criminal population of Musselburgh made by Mr. List, the superintendent of police:— Criminal Population.

"*Persons who are habit and repute thieves.*

	Males.	Females.
Under 17 years of age	1	..
From 17 to 20 years of age	1	..
,, 20 to 25 ditto	2	2
,, 25 to 30 ditto	2	..
,, 30 to 40 ditto	..	1
,, 40 to 50 ditto	1	1
,, 60 to 80 ditto	..	2
Total	7	6

"There are also a number of this class who occasionally come from Edinburgh, especially during the races, which are held here annually.

"*Persons who occasionally steal.*

	Males.	Females.
Under 17 years of age	8	..
From 17 to 20 years of age	..	1
,, 20 to 25 ditto	..	1
,, 25 to 30 ditto	2	1
,, 40 to 50 ditto	1	1
Total	11	4

"*Persons who are drunk and disorderly.*

	Males.	Females.
From 17 to 20 years of age	1	..
,, 20 to 25 ditto	4	1
,, 25 to 30 ditto	2	..
,, 30 to 40 ditto	2	..
,, 50 to 60 ditto	..	1
Total	9	2

"*Prostitutes.*

	Females.
From 17 to 20 years of age	1
,, 20 to 25 ditto	2
,, 25 to 30 ditto	1
Total	4

"There are also a number of loose characters who work at the different factories in the burgh."

The offenders are distinguished for habits of drunkenness; many of the thefts, even, are committed under the excitement of whisky, and procuring whisky is often the direct object of the theft. The parents of the offenders are for the most part of bad character themselves. It is observed that few of the fishermen are dishonest, although these people commit their full share of the brawls. The greater part of the offenders belong to the place. Habits of the Offenders.

Police.—The superintendent of the police (who is brother to the excellent superintendent of the East Lothian police) is spoken highly of as an able and efficient officer. There appears to be a difficulty, however, in procuring good subordinate officers, notwithstanding that the salary, including perquisites, is more than 40*l.* a-year. Police.

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EDINBURGHSHIRE.

Population about 240,000.

Prisons existing at present.—Eleven; namely, a gaol, a bridewell, a lock-up house, a police prison, and a debtors' prison at Edinburgh; a burgh prison (not yet legalized) and a police prison at Leith; a burgh prison at Musselburgh; and lock-up houses at Dalkeith, Lasswade, and Pennycuick. The prisons at Dalkeith and Pennycuick are also used (for very short periods) as places of punishment. *Edinburghshire.* Existing Prisons.

Prisons wanted.—The Edinburgh gaol is not suited to the introduction of a good system of discipline, and the bridewell is only so to a moderate extent. But if the plan should be adopted of making the provision for prisons in Scotland national instead of local, it will be unnecessary to rebuild or greatly to alter these prisons, because all prisoners sentenced to long periods of confinement would be more advantageously placed in one of the proposed peniten- Prisons wanted.

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tiaries at Glasgow and Perth. Indeed, under this arrangement I think the Edinburgh gaol might after a time be altogether dispensed with. The prison in the Canongate and the lock-up house might also be pulled down; and the use of the police prison confined to prisoners under examination. The prison at Musselburgh must be considerably improved, or replaced by a new one; a new set of police cells is required at Leith also, and new small prisons should be built in lieu of the present ones at Dalkeith, Lasswade, and Pennycuick. Lastly, small prisons are wanted at Portobello and Mid-Calder, where none exist at present.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c., in this County.—The state of crime at Edinburgh was described in my last Report, page 128. The following is the result of my inquiries as to the remaining part of the county. Murder, highway robbery, and all other heinous offences, appear to be very rare; housebreaking, indeed, attended with personal violence, seems to be unknown, though stealing from dwelling-houses without personal violence is rather common. Stealing linen, poultry, &c., also, is rather common, and robberies of field and garden produce (such as potatoes, turnips, onions, fruit, &c.) are yet more common. There appears to be but little sheep-stealing, but petty assaults are rather common. Upon the whole, the crimes now committed in this county appear to be of a less formidable character than formerly; and when the increase of population is taken into account, crime appears to have diminished in amount as well as in degree.

Age, &c. of the Offenders.

Most of the petty thefts seem to be committed by boys from about 8 to 18 years old. The other offences are by people of various ages and of both sexes. As a class, the offenders are distinguished for habits of drunkenness; many of them have no regular occupation; their education appears to have been generally neglected, and the parents of most of them (when known) are observed to be of bad character themselves. There are many orphans, however, among the offenders. It is observed that the coal-carters, as a class, commit many more than their share of offences. Generally speaking, the offenders are to be found in the poorest grade of the community.

Police.

Police.—Most of the sheriff-officers are reported to be respectable and efficient, but an organized and responsible police, on a sufficient footing for carrying the laws into full execution, is much wanted.

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DUNDEE, FORFARSHIRE.

Population about 55,000.

Dundee.

The old prison described in my first Report has now been abandonded, and the new one there mentioned as in course of building has been finished and brought into use. This new prison is in the outskirts of the town, on the northern side. The site appears to have been tolerably well chosen, although, considering the rate at which the town of Dundee is increasing, I think it would have been better to place it farther off. A prudent regard, however, has been shown to the possible necessity of an enlargement of the building at a future time, by securing and enclosing plenty of land. The only other objection to the site that I am aware of is the clayey nature of the soil; but this objection applies, I believe, to the whole neighbourhood of Dundee.

Cost.

The whole cost of the building (including the estimated value of the land,—11,400*l.*—which was the property of the burgh, and for which, therefore, there was no actual payment, and including the expense of procuring the Act of Parliament—750*l.*,—and the cost of furniture, looms, bedding, &c.—about 800*l.*—), was about 22,700*l.* This sum is exclusive of the cost of a police-office, which was put up at the same time as the prison, and in the same place, and is exclusive also of the cost of fitting up a temporary prison in the steeple of one of the churches, the expense of which (700*l.*) was defrayed out of the money raised under the Act for building the new prison. The whole expense fell upon the burgh, not one shilling having been paid by the county, notwithstanding the prison was built for the accommodation of both. It should be remarked, however, that the county did at one time consent to pay a portion of the cost, but that the engagement was broken off in consequence of a disagreement about the aliment of such of the prisoners as might be sentenced to hard labour.

Construction.

The prison of Dundee is built on the radiating plan, the governor's house being in the centre, and the other buildings being placed in diverging lines, and quite detached from each other. There are five of these buildings, and they together form nearly a semicircle. The middle building contains the debtors' prison, rooms for two of the under officers, and the kitchen and wash-house. The two buildings on either side are the gaol and bridewell. These buildings, which are of equal size, and on the same construction, form the main part of the prison, being much larger than the other three buildings. The two remaining outer buildings were originally intended as workshops and schoolrooms for the younger prisoners, but it has not been found expedient to use them in this way, and no distinction is in fact made between these and other parts of the prison, except that, being less dry and secure, they are used only when necessary. It may be here remarked that the building was originally designed in the expectation that the prisoners would work together in small parties during the day, and be separate only at night; the cells on the ground floor, both in the gaol and bridewell, were consequently made moderately large, while those on the two upper floors were made very small. During the erection, however, those who were intrusted with the management were induced to deviate somewhat from this plan, with a view to the introduction of the separate system. The chief alteration was to make the cells in the highest stories of the same size as those in the lowest, by throwing two cells into one.

Each of the central buildings has two airing-yards, which, together with one airing-yard to each of the outside buildings, make 8 yards in the whole. The walls surrounding these airing-yards are not more than 9 feet high; but beyond them, and detached from them, is the outer wall of the prison, which is 15 feet high. At one extremity of the front part of the outer wall is the porter's house, the upper part of which was originally intended as an hospital, but as, under the separate system, it is generally found best to tend sick prisoners in their own cells, this hospital has not been brought into use. At the other extremity of the front wall is the police-office already referred to, containing a police court-room and offices, and 10 small cells for prisoners under examination and for drunken people confined only till they are sober. Between the police-office and the porter's house is a large open area which has been left for a county court, sheriff's rooms, &c., which are much wanted, and which were contained in the original design, but which were not put up in consequence of the disagreement between the county and the burgh.

Each of the two main sections of the prison is divided into two equal parts by a wall running vertically from end to end in the usual way, with passages on each side into which the doors of the cells open. On the lower and upper floors there are 6 cells in each single tier, or 12 in the double tier, and on the middle floor there are 12 cells in each single tier, and 24 in the double tier, making altogether 48 cells in each section. That part of the central building which is appropriated to debtors contains 2 day-rooms and 8 small sleeping-rooms, and each of the wings or end buildings of the prison contains 6 cells and a room originally intended for a school-room. The following are the dimensions of the cells and rooms:—

Criminals' Cells, &c.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
48	9½	8	8	600
48	8	4	8	250
6	8	7¼	8½	500
6	8	6	8½	400
2	22	12	8½	2200
Debtors' Rooms.				
2	11	9	8	800
8	9	5	8	360
120				

The prison is built of stone, and in a substantial manner. The outer walls are 2½ feet thick, and the inner walls 1½ foot thick, and (exceptng the ceilings in the two wings) the floors and ceilings are all secure, being formed of large flat stones resting partly in the walls and partly on iron beams. The windows are all secured by strong iron stanchions. The doors also are strong, and each is provided with an inspection hole. In the two upper stories of the gaol there is an inner grated door in each cell, besides the outer door. The larger cells have each 2 windows; but a single window, differently constructed, and of somewhat greater size, would have admitted more light, and would in other respects have been better. It would have been much better also to have hung the doors differently; for, instead of falling back against the wall and leaving the passage clear, they stop half-way.

Present state.

The building, which was brought into use only last summer, has not yet been thoroughly dried; some of the cells, indeed, are still quite damp. There is as yet very little provision for warming the cells; in fact, until small stoves were placed in four of the cells, no part of the prison except the debtors' day-rooms was warmed in any way. I have strongly recommended that gas be introduced into the cells, and I have hopes that it will appear that the gas will serve not only to light the cells, but, to a sufficient extent, to warm them also. The ventilation appears to be tolerably good, but, as it depends on keeping the cell windows partly open, constant vigilance is necessary. I found the whole of the prison very clean, and, excepting the two wings, it appears to be tolerably secure. There has hitherto been no escape, and, it is believed, no attempt even at escape.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There were 92 at the time of my last visit, viz., 88 criminals (65 males and 23 females), and four debtors (all males). Twelve were waiting for trial. The average number of prisoners since the place was opened has been about 104. With the exception of some of the females, and two or three males who were employed at dirty work, all the prisoners looked clean; but I was surprised to learn that the rule requiring them to wash themselves daily does not extend to Sunday. I, of course, advised an alteration in this respect. The exceptions to cleanliness on the part of the females were caused by the matron having consented, on various pleas, to exempt prisoners occasionally from washing; but I recommended that, in future, no excuses should be received.

Health.

Health.—Notwithstanding the smallness of some of the cells, and the damp state of others, the health of the prisoners appears, on the whole, to have been tolerably good; and it certainly has been very much better than it was in the old prison. There have, however, been four deaths during the half-year that the new prison has been open; two were cases of consumption, the prisoners being ill when they came in; a third, which happened during my last visit, I understood to be caused by a spasmodic attack; and in the other case, the prisoner, a boy, hanged himself. The most common disorders are those which the prisoners bring in with them, such as syphilis and sores. There has, hitherto, been no epidemic.

Food.

Food.—The food is nearly the same as that of the Glasgow bridewell, and is as follows:—

Breakfast.—10¾ ounces of oatmeal, made into porridge, with about an ounce of treacle.

Dinner.—4 ounces of barley made into broth (with marrow-bones, seasoning, and vegetables), and a quantity of bread, varying from 5 ounces to 10 ounces, according to the age of the prisoner, and the nature and quantity of work done, &c.

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The food is all of wholesome quality, and the experience of the Glasgow bridewell shows that it is sufficient in quantity. The average daily cost, including cooking, &c., has hitherto been about 3*d.* per head.

Bedding.

Bedding.—A hammock, a straw mattress and pillow, a sheet, a double blanket, and a thick rug. The females have bedsteads instead of hammocks, and have straw in their mattresses all the year round; but the males have straw only during the winter, hammocks not requiring straw in summer. The bedding is of good quality, and appears to be quite sufficient in quantity. I found it all clean; and I learned that the sheets are washed eight or nine times a-year, the blankets three times (and in some cases oftener), and that the straw is changed once in the year for the males, and twice for the females.

Clothing.

Clothing.—None is supplied except in cases of destitution.

Discipline.

Discipline.—The prisoners rise a little before 6 all the year round, breakfast at 7, dine at 2, and go to bed at 8. This certainly gives them too much time, by at least 2 hours, for bed. They work, on an average, about 8 hours each day; which time might be increased to 10 or 11 hours without requiring them to do more than labouring men out of prison.

Work.

The chief kinds of employment are weaving, teasing ropes, winding weft, shoemaking, tailors' work, and domestic labour; teasing ropes being by far the most common. Owing to various causes the work has, hitherto, been only moderately profitable, the clear gain yielded being, on an average, not more than 1*l.* per head for the half-year that the prison has been open.

Trifling periods of confinement.

The chief cause of this unsatisfactory state of things is the shortness of most of the periods of confinement ordered by the Police Court,* and the practice of the magistrates (to the advantage of which I confess I am quite blind) of exempting some of the offenders from labour. Another cause is a provision in the Act under which the prison was built, which positively forbids the Sheriff sentencing an offender from the landward part of the county to labour. The object of this clause was to prevent the county from deriving any benefit from the house of correction, which forms part of the prison; seeing that the county had contributed nothing towards its erection, and that the law of Scotland does not require a royal burgh to do more than provide a gaol. The effect of this clause, however, has been to keep up a troublesome distinction between one part of the prison and the other and to promote idleness, thereby hampering the Governor's arrangements, and increasing the cost of maintaining county prisoners; the whole of which cost, so soon as sentence has been pronounced, falls upon the burgh. It is certainly true that, where prisoners are separated from each other, as is the case at Dundee, they are almost always willing and even desirous to work, even if work be not enjoined; but it is found, in this prison, at least, that work done voluntarily is not of the same steady and productive kind as that performed in obedience to regulation; which is partly accounted for by the dull nature of the chief employment—picking ropes. The Governor gave it as his opinion that three prisoners working voluntarily do not produce more than one prisoner working by compulsion.

Separation.

The principle of separation, though generally acted upon here, is not complete, a few of the prisoners being employed in teaching, or occupied in other ways so as to bring two prisoners together.

Instruction.

The only instruction in reading, &c., is that given by the prisoners themselves. A chaplain passes 6 hours per week in the prison (no part of which time is on the Sunday), but his attention is confined to admonition and religious exercises.

Conduct of the Prisoners.

The prisoners are supplied with Bibles and catechisms, but there has hitherto been no library. The conduct of the prisoners is reported to be generally very good, almost the only offence being occasional idleness. The usual punishment is the loss of part or the whole of the breakfast. Work is, for the most part, regarded as an alleviation of punishment; but, as already stated, a prisoner, if left to do as much or as little as he likes, usually performs but a small quantity.

Females.

Female Prisoners.—The females are under the charge of a matron (subject to the general direction of the Governor), and none of the male turnkeys enter their ward. In other respects there is no important difference between their treatment and that of the males.

Debtors.

Debtors.—There were 4 debtors at the time of my visit, which is about the average number since the prison opened. The usual allowance for aliment is about 9*d.* per day. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from friends and supplies of food from without are freely permitted: spirituous liquors, however, being of course excluded.

Visits, &c.

Miscellaneous.—Untried prisoners are not compelled to work; but no other difference is made between them and convicted prisoners. Visits are allowed, at the discretion of the Governor. Letters (of which there are but few) are inspected. Tobacco is not permitted in any form.

Lunatic.

There is at present no insane prisoner, though there is a man who was received about three weeks ago in a state of violent derangement, brought on, it is thought, by excessive drinking. Now, however, he appears to have the command of his faculties again.

Officers.

Governor.

Officers.—There are 6; namely, a governor, a matron, 2 turnkeys, a porter, and a night watchman. All but the porter and night watchman live in the prison. The Governor is exceedingly well qualified for his situation, and the state of the prison does him much credit, especially when it is considered that he had to conquer the habits of idleness, disorder, and

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* The following are Specimens of the trifling imprisonments referred to:—

December 26th, 1837.—A man, for assaulting the wife of another man in her own house, was sentenced to pay a fine of 9*s.*, or to be imprisoned 10 days.

December 28th.—A man, for stealing a hat from a shop, was sentenced to 5 days' imprisonment.

December 30th.—A man, for grossly assaulting his wife and daughter, was sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment.

January 1st, 1838.—A person, for stealing several articles from a dwelling-house, was sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment.

noise, which the prisoners had acquired in the old gaol. The Governor's efficiency and success are attributable in great measure to the circumstances of his having been trained as an assistant in the Glasgow Bridewell. The Matron appears to be a respectable woman, and, though not possessed of high qualifications, to be better suited for her office than could be reasonably expected from the smallness of the salary, which, together with lodging and very plain board, is only 15*l.* per year. The surgeon attends at least once in two days, and oftener when required. He appears to perform his duties with zeal. The chaplain also has the character of a worthy and zealous man; but the time which, under the present arrangement, he gives to the prison is quite too little, and his entire absence on the Sunday is particularly objectionable. His instruction, too, would, I think, prove more effective if it were made more applicable to the peculiar circumstances of the life and habits of each prisoner, than appears at present to be the case, and if it were conveyed in simpler language.

Surgeon. Chaplain.

Fees.—The only fee is one of from 1*s.* to 5*s.* from the imprisoning creditor, on the admission of a debtor.

Fees.

Accounts.—There is a register of criminals and debtors, according to the prescribed form, a record of the personal description of each convicted prisoner, an account of debtors' aliment, a work account, and a petty-cash book. The larger payments are made by the Town Chamberlain, on a voucher being presented, signed by the Governor. The various accounts are neatly kept, and I have no doubt are quite trustworthy.

Accounts.

General Observations.—Very few persons, if any, can leave this prison worse than when they entered it; and the minds and habits of some must be materially improved, though the effect is little compared with what it might be if the system of frequent and short commitments were abandoned, and offenders were sent, in the first instance, for such a period as would give sufficient time to educate and train them anew.

General observations.

In my private conversation with each prisoner I was pleased to find that, with one exception, all who had been in the old gaol preferred the new one; or, at least, admitted that it was better for them to be there; and several declared that the new system was even more pleasant than the old, as they were no longer exposed to the abuse and tyranny of other prisoners.

New Prison preferred to old.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the Magistrates and Council of the Burgh of Dundee.

Jurisdiction.

State of Crime, &c., at Dundee.—There appears to be a great deal of crime here, and perhaps more petty crime, even in proportion to the population, than formerly; but the character of the crime, generally, has evidently become milder. Thirteen or fourteen years ago, —that is, before the establishment of a regular police, and the appointment of the present excellent Procurator Fiscal for this district of the county,—it was often unsafe to walk out even in the most public streets, after nightfall; assault and robbery, and fights between large parties of the lower classes, being then common. Up to about that time, too, or within a few years of it, the public Procurator Fiscal would not act in a case of assault, such an offence being then looked upon as the private affair of the party injured; and, even in other cases, any one who was determined to carry the law into effect, was often obliged to bear the expense of apprehension and prosecution. And as evidence of the extent to which petty offences were probably overlooked at that time, I may mention that an inhabitant of the town told me that he recollected that about 20 years ago several persons incurred popular ridicule because, having been much annoyed by robberies of their poultry, they joined together to bear the expense of prosecuting the thieves; the offence of stealing poultry being then looked upon as too trifling to be brought under the cognizance of the administrators of the law. Violent offences have now almost disappeared, and no one seems to hesitate in walking in any part of the town at any hour of the night. The most common offences at present are thefts (unaccompanied with personal violence) and drunken brawls. Thefts by prostitutes, particularly, are common. Swindling, also, and uttering base money are said to be rather common, though forgery appears to be rare. Strikes among the workmen, accompanied with intimidation and violence towards those who continue to work at the condemned scale of wages, have been frequent of late years, but they have seldom been attended with other breaches of the peace than those towards their fellow workmen: though these are certainly bad enough, and constitute a great tyranny. It is believed that most of those who join in the combinations which produce these offences think that they are acting wisely, and that they have justice on their side, and that they are open to conviction if means were taken to explain to them that they are running directly counter to their own interests.

Crime, &c. Milder character of the Offences. Thefts and drunken brawls. Strikes.

The number of deliberate murders remembered as having occurred in the last 13 years, is 6, of which 4 were followed by the apprehension and conviction of the offenders. In addition to these there have been many cases of culpable homicide, and many cases of assault to the danger of life. The following is an estimate of the present criminal population of Dundee, made by an intelligent sergeant of police there, who has been several years on duty:—

6 Murders in 13 Years.

"*Habitual thieves.*"

	Males.	Number of Offenders.
Above 18 years of age	25	
Below ditto	45	
	Females.	
Above 15 years of age	25	
Below ditto	15	
Carried over	110	

Brought forward . .		110

"Note.—These are exclusive of the common prostitutes, and also of those persons, both male and female, who may only sojourn in the place for a few days, and commit one solitary act of theft and then disappear, of which there are a good number in the course of a year.

" *Receivers of stolen goods.*

Dealers in second-hand goods and dealers in stoneware .	30	
Low public houses, tippling shops, &c. . . .	30	
		60

" *Common prostitutes.*

The portion of them who may be denominated thieves .	70	
Those not positively known as such . . .	150	
		220

" *Common disturbers of the peace.*

40 thieves, included above.
150 prostitutes, included above.

Disturbers of the peace, not included under either of the foregoing heads	110
	500

Causes of Crime.

Almost all the assaults proceed from drunkenness, and many of the thefts can be traced directly or indirectly to the same source. With the very young a common motive of theft is the indulgence of the appetite for sweetmeats and the desire for such pleasures as going to the theatre, &c. Absolute want appears to be rarely the cause of stealing at Dundee, such is the ease with which work in the mills is generally obtained, even when the person applying has no good character to recommend him. I was surprised, in my private examination of the prisoners, to find what considerable wages, even the children, had been getting when out of the prison; 4*s.* or 5*s.* a-week being no uncommon sum for a boy 12 or 13 years old. It appeared, indeed, that, in the late commercial distress, many of them had been often thrown out of employment; but even then it seemed, from their own showing, that it was rather the bad habits and idle company that they fell into, than absolute want, that led them to steal. A few of the prisoners, however, did certainly assign hunger as the cause of their offence.

Want of education.

Where the parents of the young thieves are living they appear to be generally bad, or at least to be in habits of drunkenness. Most of the offenders belong to the poorest class. They are stated to be decidedly below others in the same rank of life in education. There is a large Irish population at Dundee, but they are represented to be generally honest, though quarrelsome.

January, 1838.

Improvements.

The principal changes that I recommended in this prison were,—

1st. The introduction of gas for lighting all the cells, both in the morning and evening.
2nd. Placing the appointment and dismissal of the subordinate officers in the hands of the Governor.

The first of these recommendations has been carried into operation, and the second, though not adopted in form, is so in reality, the town-council having determined always to act in this matter on the recommendation of the Governor.

The following extracts from two letters from the Governor (subsequently confirmed by the town-clerk) shew the adoption of some minor recommendations, and give other information respecting the prison:—

" 29th January, 1838.

" We have shifted the looms in the upper flat. The weavers there have now the light striking on the side of their looms in place of the back. It is a great improvement.

" The punishment book, visitor's book, and surgeon's book, have all been got; the last only on Saturday last, but the others have been in use for ten days. I have distributed the small books you were so kind as to furnish us, among those I thought most likely to read them. Some are very fond of them.

" Washing on Sunday has commenced, but we have not yet begun the monthly bathing. It is the surgeon's opinion, that until the weather is a little warmer it will not be safe. I really think so too.

" We have plenty of weaving, &c."

" March, 15, 1838.

" Our prisoners have felt the cold of the winter severely. Owing to the ground being covered with snow for two months we could not exercise them in the yards, and a number of the males are a good deal reduced in body; but I am taking every means for recruiting them, by frequent airing in the grounds, increase in the allowance of food, &c. To some I give a few potatoes and a little salt fish for supper, in addition to the usual rations. A great number of females were complaining for the last month. Generally one-eighth of *them* were confined to bed. Now they are all well, with the exception of one old woman, who leaves us in a day or two.

" We have commenced the monthly bathing. I think it will have a good effect. In every case I have made the person bathed either run or walk smartly for some time after he comes out of the water, to restore the natural warmth.

" I lately purchased and got fitted up two pairs of hackles, for flax-dressing; and have two men busy at that work. It is very dusty in a cell; but the men who are well accustomed to such work, say they feel no inconvenience from it.

" Our weavers are all busy.

" The number of prisoners is, at present—88 criminals and 5 debtors; and that has been about the average from the beginning of the year."

BRECHIN, FORFARSHIRE.

(Third Report.)

The alterations mentioned in my last Report as having been determined on but not carried into effect have since then been completed, and a decided improvement is now manifest in this little prison. The following extracts of a letter to the Provost, dated 2nd November, 1837, with the accompanying remarks, lately received, show what further changes have been made:

	Remarks.
"The upper room, which I recommended to be converted into a prison for female debtors has not yet been so altered; but I understand that everything is in readiness for the change, should a case of a female debtor arise. It would be advisable, however, in the meantime, to refer to the entry of the prison in the county records, to see if this room is, in fact, a legal place of confinement for debtors.	This room has not yet been required; but in case of its being so (a circumstance not very likely to occur), the alterations could be completed in a day or two, everything being in readiness.
"The straw mattresses recommended in my last letter have not, I observe, been yet procured.	This has been strictly attended to; and each bed is now supplied with a mattress.
"I am sorry to say that no regular employment has been obtained for the prisoners, as this is a matter to which I attach great importance. Perhaps the proprietors of one of the mills in the neighbourhood would, on application, give out a quantity of waste cotton or linen to pick; or if this cannot be arranged, a supply of old cords for picking might, I should think, be got from Montrose. If the prisoners earned only a penny a-day each, they would be well occupied; the keeping up habits of industry being the main object.	This is the only recommendation which the authorities have not been able to carry into execution. It was thought that waste from some of the mills in the neighbourhood might have been procured, but the owners do not seem disposed to give out this article. The Magistrates have also thought of employing the prisoners in filling weavers' pirns; but this requires some little training, and the manufacturers do not seem disposed to intrust their yarns to inexperienced hands. They expect to be able to get old cords, either from Montrose or Dundee, to pick, as recommended by Mr. Hill; and should they fail in doing so, the Magistrates will report to that gentleman, or consider of some other means of employing the prisoners.
"The following is a memorandum of some other recommendations which I would make:—	
"1st. A glazed frame to be put into the cavity which serves as a window in the back cell. (If this were done, this cell would be the best of the two; and it has the advantage of being quite removed from the street.)	This has been done, and the cell is now very comfortable.
"2nd. A press to be put up in the debtors' room, in which to put the blankets, &c., of all the prisoners during the day.	Instead of putting up a press in the debtors' room, the authorities have erected one in the lobby, as being most convenient for putting the blankets of the *whole* prisoners into; and it is hoped Mr. Hill will approve of this when he has had an opportunity of seeing it.
"3rd. Every prisoner to be required to wash himself thoroughly every morning, and not to receive any part of his daily allowance until he has obeyed this regulation. Every prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once each week.	This is strictly attended to by the gaoler.
"4th. All luxuries, such as butter, tea, coffee, tobacco, ale, porter, &c., to be forbidden, and no articles of food to be admitted into the prison except those contained in a written list, a copy of which should be in the gaoler's possession. (This regulation does not apply to debtors.)	This also attended to, *except* when milk is not to be had; in which case a little coffee is allowed.
"5th. No conversation among the prisoners, in a tone loud enough to be heard in the street, to be permitted. (It is desirable that conversation among the criminal prisoners should be entirely prevented; but this cannot be accomplished, owing to the construction of the prison.)	This attended to as far as possible.
"6th. Every act of disobedience to the rules of the prison to be followed by punishment. Ordinary punishment to consist of the withdrawal of part of the daily allowance, provided, however, that the sum withdrawn in any one day does not reduce the allowance to less than three pence. When a prisoner destroys or injures any of the prison furniture, &c., the exact cost of the repair should be taken from his allowance, under the limitation just mentioned."	This is in like manner attended to.

March, 1838.

MONTROSE, FORFARSHIRE.

(Third Report.)

Montrose.
Improvements.

I visited this prison again in the early part of last November, and was pleased to find the improvements mentioned in my Second Report in full operation. I recommended some further changes; and by a letter received from one of the Magistrates a short time after my

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visit, I learned that these recommendations had been carried into effect. The following are the changes just referred to:—The work is now given out in stated quantities; the cells are furnished with lamps, to enable the prisoners to work and read in the winter evenings and mornings; the bed-clothes are removed from the cells during the day; the dietary has been somewhat reduced in quality; and the use of tobacco in every form has been prohibited.

March, 1838.

ARBROATH, FORFARSHIRE.

(Second Report.)

Arbroath.

Improvements.

I visited this prison last November, and found it in much the same state as at my visit two years before. I had a meeting, however, with the Magistrates, and left with them the following memorandum of recommendations; and I have since learned, that, with the exception of the 10th, these recommendations have been carried into effect; and that the Venetian blinds mentioned in the 10th recommendation are ready to be put up as soon as the weather will permit:—

1. *Admittance of a Prisoner.*—Every prisoner on his admittance to be carefully examined, that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, and whether he has anything in his possession unsuitable to a prison, as knives, files, &c.; the prisoner then to wash himself from head to foot, and his hair to be cut, if necessary.

2. *Separation.*—No two prisoners to be put in the same cell, or be allowed to see each other, or to hold communication of any kind, except in cases of absolute necessity, arising from insufficient accommodation in the prison.

3. *Work.*—The prisoners to be encouraged to work by being allowed one-half of their clear earnings, and by being supplied with the means of working, as with oakum to pick, &c.

4. *Food.*—A list to be made of the kinds of food to be admitted, and none to be entered that are not of the plainest quality. Beer and fermented liquor of every kind, and all other luxuries, such as tea, coffee, sugar, butter, tobacco, &c. to be forbidden. No supplies of food from friends or acquaintance without the prison to be allowed.

5. *Fires.*—Fires to be permitted only when necessary from the state of the weather.

6. *Cleanliness.*—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning, and not to receive any part of his daily allowance until he has obeyed this regulation. Each prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a-week.

7. *Punishments.*—Every prisoner who shall call to any person outside the gaol, or to a prisoner in another cell, or who shall make a noise of any kind, or who shall use abusive or otherwise improper language, or who shall misconduct himself in any other respect, shall be subject to a fine of one penny, or confinement in the dark cell, as the Provost or visiting Magistrate may judge fit, provided that a prisoner's allowance for food in any one day be not reduced lower than threepence. The gaoler to keep a book in which he shall enter every offence committed, and to carry this book to the Provost or visiting Magistrate every day that an entry is made in it.

8. *Visits.*—Visits to untried prisoners to be restricted to one day in the week, and to a stated time in that day. Visits to convicted prisoners to be in like manner restricted to once a month.

The foregoing regulations to apply to females equally with males.

Exceptions. — The regulations do not extend to debtors; and the rule respecting visitors does not apply to the legal adviser of an untried prisoner.

Sundry Recommendations.

9. *Lime-Washing.* — The whole of the prison to be lime-washed immediately; and henceforward to be lime-washed regularly twice a-year.

10. *Venetian Blinds* to be put up before all the windows, so as to prevent the prisoners from seeing persons on the outside, and communicating with them.

11. *The Bed Clothes* to be washed immediately; and in future to be removed from the cells every morning.

FORFAR.

(Second Report.)

Forfar.

Little change.

This prison remains in much the same state as that described in my Report of December, 1835. The building is indeed so old and so completely unsuited to its purposes, that it would be vain to attempt to make many improvements in it. Two small wooden cells, however, have been constructed (for drunken and disorderly people), at one end of the wide passage into which the lower cells open, and these have, I was told, been found useful.

November, 1837.

FORFARSHIRE.

Population about 155,000.

Forfarshire.

Existing Prisons.

Prisons existing at present.—Seven; namely, the new prison for criminals and debtors at Dundee; small prisons for criminals and debtors at Montrose, Arbroath, Forfar, and Brechin

(of which that at Montrose is decidedly the best); a small barony gaol for criminals confined for very short periods at Kirriemuir; and a lock-up house at Cupar-Angus.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Prisons wanted.—New prisons, in lieu of the present ones, are required at Forfar, Brechin, Kirriemuir, and Cupar-Angus; and there must be either a new prison, or considerable alterations in the present one, at Arbroath. Small prisons also are wanted at Lochee and Newtyle. Lochee is a manufacturing village about 2 miles from Dundee. The population is 1,200 or 1,500, and there is a good deal of crime and tumult both in the village and neighbourhood. —Newtyle is a thriving manufacturing village in the western part of the county, and at one end of a railroad from Dundee. Its population is about 1,500.

Forfarshire.

Prisons wanted.

January, 1838.

TRANENT, HADDINGTONSHIRE.

Tranent.

Population about 1,600, or, including a district a mile in radius, about 2,000.

The prison of Tranent, which is a mere lock-up house, consists of a single cell about 8 feet long, 6 feet broad, and 9 feet high. It is in the back part of the constable's house, which is on the outskirts of the town, and which appears to be tolerably well situated. Owing, however, to the recent removal of the former constable, and to the new constable not having arrived and taken possession of the house, I was unable to do more than examine the outside, and obtain from another person a description of the interior.

Construction, &c.

The cell now used as a prison was converted to its present purposes about 3 years ago, being originally nothing but a closet in the constable's house. I was told that it is dry, but that it is not warmed in any way, and I observed that the slit which serves as a window (and which looks into a private garden) is unglazed. The place appears to be moderately secure. When, however, there is a determined offender in confinement the constable sits up to watch him. If a case were to arise of a male and female being under arrest at the same time, the female, I was told, would be confined in another part of the constable's house.

Present state.

Prisoners.—Not more than 10 or 12, I was informed, are put in in the course of a year. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit.

Prisoners.

Food and Bedding.—Few prisoners remain long enough to require food; those who are in confinement for drunkenness being liberated next morning, and others being sent on, as soon as possible, to Haddington. When food is given it consists of bread and water. Loose straw is all that is allowed for bedding.

Food and bedding.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the county magistrates.

Jurisdiction

State of Crime, &c., at Tranent.—There appears to be very little serious crime here, but a good deal of a petty kind, such as drunken brawls and petty thefts.

Crime, &c.

Mr. List, the superintendent of police for the county, states, that there are 16 reputed thieves at Tranent, besides 3 prostitutes, of whom 2 are thieves. The thefts are almost all of a petty kind, such as stealing small quantities of farm produce, &c. Besides the habitual thieves there are several boys who occasionally steal.

The reputed thieves are from 16 to 25 years old. They are more addicted to drunkenness than people generally in the same class of life. The means of purchasing whisky are often the direct object of the theft. The character of their parents is not known, most of them being strangers. Some of the offenders are carters, and others call themselves labourers; few of them, however, have in fact any regular occupation. Some sell sweetmeats to children, and in that way act as receivers of stolen goods and corrupters of youth; for they give their sweetmeats in barter for almost anything that is brought to them. It is very unfortunate that in the present state of the law of evidence in Scotland, it is difficult to put a resolute stop to practices of this kind. Many of the offenders, it is stated, are Irish.

Age and habits of the offenders.

January, 1838.

NORTH BERWICK, HADDINGTONSHIRE.

North Berwick.

Population about 1,200, or, including a district 4 miles in radius, about 2,400.

The prison of North Berwick forms part of the town-house, which is an old building standing at the corner of the two main streets. There are 2 cells on the ground floor, and above them is a room for debtors. These form the whole of the accommodation. The dimension of the cells and room are as follows:—

Construction, &c.

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
2 cells	11½	7½	7½	650
Debtors' room	16	11	9	1600

There is no airing-yard. The place is insecure, and is in most respects ill adapted to its purposes. There appears to have been no escape, however, for about 25 years, which must be owing to the small number of prisoners, and to the petty character of their offences, which affords but little motive for a determined effort at escape. There is no provision for warming the cells, and the slits which serve for windows in them are unglazed. In the debtors' room, however, there is a fire-place, and a proper window. The floor of the debtors' room is of wood, as is the ceiling both of the debtors' room and the cells. The prison is dry (it is built on a sandy soil) and I found it clean.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

North Berwick.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—North Berwick being a royal burgh, both debtors and criminals are received into the prison. It appears, however, to have been the general practice to send any criminal, who may have been sentenced to more than a short period of confinement, to Haddington, notwithstanding the gaol at Haddington is as strictly a burgh-gaol as that of North Berwick. There was no prisoner at the time of my visit, and there appears to have been only 2 during the whole of the last year, the one who remained in longest staying only 10 days, and the other (a drunkard) 2 separate nights.

Health.

Health.—The health of the prisoners appears to be generally good. No instance of a death is remembered. There is no regularly appointed surgeon; but I was assured that a surgeon would be sent for, at the expense of the burgh, if a prisoner were taken ill.

Food.

Food.—The gaoler is allowed 6*d.* per day for each prisoner, for supplying him with food. No fixed rations, however, are appointed. The gaoler stated, that he generally gave a prisoner a basin of tea and a penny roll for breakfast, a bottle of beer and a penny roll for dinner, and a bottle of beer and a penny roll for supper. Additional supplies are allowed from without.

Bedding.

Bedding.—A straw mattress and a blanket. The mattress is placed in a wooden cot. Sometimes the prisoners furnish their own bedding. There is no supply of clothing.

Discipline.

Discipline.—None is enforced. There is no kind of labour; and communication with the street can easily be carried on. The conduct of the prisoners is stated to be generally good. No instance of punishment is remembered.

Females.

Female Prisoners.—There is no female officer, and females are not treated in any way differently from males. I was assured, however, that prisoners of different sexes are never confined together; indeed it rarely happens that there are two prisoners of any kind at the same time.

Debtors.

Debtors.—There has not been a debtor in the prison for more than a year; and there so seldom is one, that no rule can be given as to aliment. Debtors provide their own bedding. Visits from friends are freely allowed.

Visits, &c.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed on an order from a magistrate. It would be vain to put any restriction on the admission of letters, as the windows open directly upon the street; and for the same reason, it would be useless to try to prevent smoking.

Gaoler.

Officer.—The gaoler appears to be well qualified for his office, and he is well spoken of by those who have had an opportunity of watching his conduct. He does not reside in the prison.

Fees.

Fees.—The gaoler claims a fee of 4*d.* per night from a debtor, for the time he has remained in prison.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonment, but not according to the prescribed form, and containing but few of the required entries. The town treasurer keeps the account of expences. The following is the expenditure for the year 1837:—

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
Food	0	5	0
Gaoler's salary	2	0	0
(The Gaoler's whole salary, as Gaoler and Burgh Officer, is 22*l.* 10*s.*)			
	£2	5	0

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the Magistrates of the burgh.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c., at North Berwick.—This place appears to be nearly free both from crime and disturbance. It is believed that there is not a single dishonest inhabitant. The few offences that do occur are stated to be drunken brawls among strangers. Fifty or sixty years ago there was a good deal of smuggling here, and it gave rise to many other offences; but the age of smuggling in this district, at least, appears to have quite gone by.

January, 1838.

LINTON, HADDINGTONSHIRE.

Population about 700.

Linton.

Construction, &c.

The small lock-up-house at Linton forms a kind of wing to the turnpike-house. There is only one cell, and this is 7 feet long, and 7 feet in average breadth and height; the cubical content, therefore, is about 350 feet. The place is dry but insecure; it is cold also, for there is no fire-place, and nothing but an open slit for a window. I found the cell moderately clean.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—This prison being a mere lock-up-house, none are confined for more than a few hours, or a single night. The constable who has the charge of it was from home at the time of my visit, but his wife said she thought there were about 20 people put in, in the course of a year.

Food and bedding.

Food and Bedding.—The food consists of bread and beer; the bedding of loose straw lying on the floor.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the county Magistrates.

State of Crime, &c., at Linton.—There appear to be very few serious offences here, and not many offences of any kind; the most common are drunken brawls. It is stated, that at the shearing-market (at which time there is a great influx of strangers), there used to be regular fights here, and that till within the last 5 years, it was always necessary to engage 30 or 40 special constables, but that 2 or 3 are now sufficient. It is believed that there is no person of bad character living at Linton. *Linton.* Crime, &c.

January, 1838.

GIFFORD, HADDINGTONSHIRE.

Population about 550. *Gifford.*

The prison at Gifford is a mere lock-up-house, and is the private property of the Marquis of Tweeddale. It consists of a single cell, 19 feet long, 10 feet broad, and about 7 feet high. The place appears to be quite dry; the window (which looks into an inclosed garden), is unglazed, but has a wooden shutter. There is a guard-bed in the cell. Construction, &c.

This lock-up-house is seldom used, except at the cattle fairs, which are held three times a-year at Gifford.

State of Crime, &c., at Gifford.—There appears to be very little crime here, and, except a few drunken brawls at the time of the cattle fairs, very little disturbance. It is stated that information has been received of only 2 robberies (and these of small sums of money), at the cattle fairs in the course of the last 5 years. There appears to be no person of bad character now living at Gifford. Crime, &cr

The Superintendent of Police for the county speaks well of the constable at this station.

DUNBAR, HADDINGTONSHIRE.

Population about 3,300.

The prison of Dunbar is about equal to that of North Berwick, which is saying but little in its favour. Like the prison of North Berwick, it forms part of an old town-house. There are 2 rooms, the dimensions of which are as follows:— *Dunbar.*

Length	Breadth.	Height.	Cubical Content.
Criminals' Room.			
Feet.	Feet.	Feet.	Feet.
18½	18½	11	3700
Debtors' Room.			
18½	10½	11	2100

There is no airing-yard, but debtors are allowed to walk in the council-room. The debtors' room contains a fire-place, and the window is glazed; but in the room for criminals, there is no fire-place, and the window is unglazed. Both rooms are insecure, the ceilings being made of wood, and the doors, with their fastenings, being but moderately strong. The last instance of escape was about 6 years ago. The place is dry, and I found it clean. State of the prison.

Prisoners.—Both debtors and criminals are received here. There was no prisoner, however, at the time of my visit; and there has been no debtor for more than a year. The whole number of criminal prisoners last year was about 60 (including cases of recommitment); but the periods of imprisonment were so short, that the average number of prisoners was less than 1. The greatest number at any one time appears to have been about 4. There is no rule requiring the prisoners to wash themselves regularly. Prisoners.

Health.—Generally good. Sick prisoners are attended by the surgeon who has the care of the paupers. No complaints, other than ordinary ones out of prison, appear to be at all prevalent. The only case of illness last year was caused by a blow received in a quarrel out of prison. There has been no death for several years. Health.

Food.—The prisoners are fed by the gaoler, who is allowed 6*d.* per day for each. He states that he gives them tea or coffee, with bread, for breakfast and supper, and barley-broth (containing meat, vegetables, &c.,) for dinner. The quantities are not fixed. Additional supplies from without appear to be seldom allowed. Food.

Bedding.—A straw mattress and 2 pairs of double blankets; the blankets are washed once a-year.—Clothing is not supplied. Bedding.

Discipline.—None. There is no work nor instruction, and the only separation enforced is that of males from females. It is stated that the prisoners generally behave well, excepting, of course, those who are brought in drunk. The usual punishment is putting on handcuffs. Discipline.

Female Prisoners.—There is no regular female officer, though the gaoler's wife acts as one to some extent. The females are not treated differently from males, but I was assured that the two sexes are always kept apart. Females.

Debtors.—The usual allowance to debtors is 1*s.* per day, paid in money. Debtors furnish their own bedding. Visits from friends are freely allowed. Debtors.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler. No instance is remembered of a letter being either sent or received. Smoking and snuff taking are permitted. Visits, &c.

Officer.—The gaoler has a respectable appearance, and is considered trustworthy. Gaoler.

Fees.—A shilling is paid by the creditor on the admission of a debtor; and on the liberation of a debtor the gaoler claims 4*d.* per night from him for the time he has remained. Fees.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Dunbar.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, though it is mixed up with other matter of a miscellaneous kind, and is not kept in a tabular form. The town treasurer keeps the account of disbursements. The following is the expenditure for the year ending 15th October, 1837:—

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
Food	5	2	2½
Fuel, about		10	6
Gaoler's salary	16	0	0
(His whole salary, as Gaoler and Burgh officer, is about 32*l.*, including clothing.)			
	21	12	8½

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the Burgh magistrates.

Crime, &c.

State of Crime, &c., at Dunbar.—There does not appear to be much crime here. The most common offences are stated to be drunken brawls, and petty thefts, such as stealing poultry and small quantities of farm produce and coals. It is stated that open female prostitution has come into existence within the last few years; but that in other respects there has been no striking change in the state of crime, &c., for a long while. At the present time it appears that there are about a dozen prostitutes in the town; several of whom are addicted to stealing also. It is further reported that in addition to the prostitutes there are about half a-dozen boys and girls who steal; and about half a-dozen men and women besides, who are of suspicious character. Lastly, that there are generally from 12 to 20 strangers in the lodging-houses at night, some of whom are believed to be dishonest.

Number of offenders.

Habits of the offenders.

The parents of the offenders are reported to be generally of bad character; it is believed, indeed, that they often set their children to steal. It has been remarked that the offenders are generally distinguished for the want of education. Most of them belong to the town, though many offences are committed by vagrants. The drunken brawls seem to be chiefly among the fishermen.

Police.—Apparently rather inefficient.

January, 1838.

HADDINGTON.

(Second Report.)

Haddington.

Escape.

This prison is in much the same state as when I reported on it a year ago. There has been an escape in the course of the year in consequence of a prisoner being allowed to stay in a room which is not properly part of the prison, and which is quite insecure. The reason given for this irregularity was the stormy state of the weather at the time, and the prisoner's ordinary cell being rendered very uncomfortable by the wind penetrating it. The young fellow that escaped soon committed another offence, and I found him again in confinement.

In my last report I stated that the debtors attend public worship. This I find has been misunderstood to signify that they leave the prison on Sunday and go to church. What I meant was, that when divine service is performed in the prison the debtors attend as well as the criminals.

In speaking of the county police, also, I stated that the subordinate officers are appointed and removed by the superintendant. This I learn is to a certain extent incorrect, inasmuch, as, although the superintendant's recommendation is acted upon he does not exercise the immediate power.

January, 1838.

EDINBURGH BRIDEWELL.

(Second Report.)

Edinburgh Bridewell.

New wing.

At the time of my last Report (January, 1837) an additional wing was in the course of erection, containing 20 cells for separate confinement. The lower part of this wing forms an arcade, where there is a treadmill, which is worked by between 30 and 40 male prisoners. The dimensions of the cells are as follow:—

Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
20	8½	6½	9	500

With the exception of this new wing there has been very little change in the bridewell since the time of my last report, and now, as before, I consider the general state of things creditable to the Governor, although, from the construction of the building and other circumstances already explained, nothing very satisfactory can be reasonably expected. Before my last examination of this prison I had heard some unfavourable reports respecting the management

Infant children.

of the infant children and the sick; but with the exception of one case, I ascertained that these reports were founded in error. Some of the reports had evidently proceeded from a young woman who was in the sick ward with two young children. Her statements however were contradicted by the other occupants of the ward; and on cross-examination she herself broke down, and was convicted of falsehood. The case of exception was that of an infant, whose legs had become paralyzed in some degree. Strange to say, the child's mother had for a considerable time neglected to inform any one of the fact; and I am sorry to have

to mention that many days had passed without the matron visiting the cell in which the child and its mother were confined; so that neither through the subordinate officers nor the matron had the matter come to the knowledge of the surgeon.

Edinburgh Bridewell.

Finding that an impression exists in Edinburgh that persons sent to the bridewell often leave with their health much impaired, I have recommended, as one means of testing the comparative state of health at entrance and departure, that every prisoner be weighed at each of these times, and a record regularly made of the result; and this recommendation the commissioners of the bridewell have given directions for carrying into effect. I also advised that each prisoner should be furnished with a thick mat or a piece of thick board to protect him from the cold of the stone floor, and that some grated apertures for additional ventilation should be made in the sick ward: all which has been done.

Health.

There is no doubt that the smallness of many of the cells and the general form of the building make it difficult to obtain a good supply of fresh air, and are adverse to health. These circumstances however are counterbalanced in some degree by great attention to cleanliness, and by a provision for every prisoner bathing once a-week throughout the year; and upon the whole I see no sufficient ground for withdrawing the opinion which I gave in the last report, that the health of the prisoners is generally good. The rate of mortality is certainly high compared with that of many other prisons; but this, as I have already explained, may be partly attributed to the circumstance of convicts being often left here, who, either from advanced age or broken constitution, are considered unfit objects for transportation.

Number of prisoners.

The average number of prisoners last year (1837) was 205 (111 males and 94 females), which is 24 more than the average of the previous year, though but little if at all more than the ordinary average. The greatest number at any one time was 252, and the least number 156.

Expenditure.

The gross expenditure was 3812*l.* 10*s.* 9½*d.*; but this is inclusive of the cost of the new wing (1466*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.*), and of the cost of a warm air apparatus for it, and of the necessary additional furniture, &c. (about 250*l.*); leaving 2095*l.* 16*s.* 5½*d.* as the current expenditure for the year. From this however is to be deducted the sum of 395*l.* 12*s.* 7¾*d.*, the produce of the prisoners' labour (exclusive of what is due for the power of the treadmill, which is at the rate of 80*l.* per annum); leaving 1700*l.* 3*s.* 9¾*d.* as the net expenditure of the year. This is at the rate of about 8*l.* 6*s.* per head.

Cost per head.

Deaths.

There were seven deaths last year (three of males and four of females). Neary all who died, however, the Governor reports, were in a state of debility or disease when taken into custody. Besides these, two infants received with their mothers (the whole number admitted being 53) died; but it is reported that both these children were out of health when they were received.

Escapes.

There were two cases of escape also; though in each case the party was retaken. The Governor reports that "one of these cases was owing to the negligence of two of the turnkeys, who were immediately dismissed; the other, from the insufficiency of the grated windows in the back solitary cells (then newly occupied) of the new prison. These windows have since been made sufficient."

March, 1838.

EDINBURGH GAOL.

(Second Report.)

Edinburgh Gaol.

Weekly visits.

Since the time of my last report on this prison, the town council have made a regulation by which two of their number visit the prison in rotation every week; and I believe this regulation has been fully acted upon, and doubtless with good results, though no important change was manifest at my examination in January last.

Improvements.

I had a meeting with the Committee on the Gaol, and recommended the following changes, a memorandum of which, together with the accompanying letter, was sent to the Lord Provost, and by him laid before the council. The subjoined letter from the Lord Provost shows how far my recommendations have been acted upon:—

Edinburgh, 18th January, 1838.

My Lord,

The following is a memorandum of the recommendations for the improvement of the discipline of the Edinburgh gaol, which I submitted on Tuesday last to the consideration of the gaol committee, at which your Lordship presided. I may repeat what I then stated that I do not hold out the expectation that, by the adoption of these suggestions the prison will be put in a satisfactory state. I do not think it possible to attain this object without incurring a very great expense, owing to the plan on which the prison has been built; but I do expect that if zealously carried into effect, these regulations will be found to give an immediate check to that system of mutual corruption which must now be going on to a melancholy extent. And I hope that by the introduction of these and a few other easy improvements, the gaol may be carried on with at least some degree of satisfaction until measure shall be passed for providing suitable prison accommodation for the whole of Scotland.

I have the honor to be,
Your Lordship's obedient servant,
(Signed) Frederic Hill.

The Lord Provost of Edinburgh.

1. The day-rooms to be enlarged (beginning with one as an experiment) by removing parts of the present inner wall, and closing the openings in the outer wall.

2. The Governor to be instructed to introduce the silent system into this day-room, placing in it as many of the male convicted prisoners as can be accommodated. The same system to be introduced into the other day-rooms (as regards convicted prisoners) so soon as these rooms are divided.

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Edinburgh Gaol.

3. The Governor to provide work of some kind (that of picking oakum when the prisoners cannot be better employed) for all who choose to work; and such prisoners to be allowed one-half of their clear earnings, the money being paid them when they leave the prison, in such form and in such instalments as the Governor may judge best.

4. An intelligent and efficient schoolmaster to be engaged, to give the whole of his time to the instruction of the prisoners, confining himself to such prisoners as are attentive, and show that they are really desirous of learning.

5. A small library to be procured, of such books as are likely to foster a taste for reading; of course, however, excluding every work of an immoral or irreligious kind.

6. No other books than those contained in the library, and no newspaper or other reading matter to be admitted without the special permission of the Governor, who shall record each exception allowed.

7. The food to be the same as in the Edinburgh bridewell; no additional supplies of any kind from without being allowed to convicted prisoners, and none to untried prisoners, except in cases where the kind of food is unobjectionable (excluding fermented liquor of every sort), and when the Governor is satisfied that it has been honestly obtained; and even then such supplies to be permitted only while the conduct of the prisoner is good, in the opinion of the Governor, and to be limited to such moderate quantities as he may think proper.

8. No prisoner to be allowed to retain or receive any money while in prison; all money being kept by the Governor until the prisoner's release. The allowance of one halfpenny per day to each prisoner for tobacco to be abolished, and the money to be carried to a fund, to be applied by the Governor in the purchase of clothes, &c. The sale of food in the prison to be entirely abolished.

9. No visits to be allowed to convicted prisoners, except under peculiar circumstances, and with the special permission of the Governor. Visits to unconvicted prisoners to be restricted to one day of the week, and to a stated time on that day; and no persons whom the Governor believes to be of bad character to be admitted even then. No visitor to go beyond the iron railings, or to stay more than five minutes; and the name of every visitor, with his residence, and the name of the prisoner visited, to be recorded. The licensed legal adviser of every untried prisoner, however, to be exempt from these restrictions, and to have access to him at all reasonable times.

The foregoing rules to apply to females equally with males; but not to extend to debtors.

10. The following among the existing regulations of the gaol to be rescinded:—Nos. 18, 24, 25 (and the one subsequently enacted in place of part of No. 25), 26, 27, 29, 30, 40, 44, and the rules enacted in place of the 28th and 31st regulations (which have been already rescinded).

11. The Governor to be authorized to act on his own discretion in all cases not provided for by the rules; he being expected to record all such cases, and to submit for the consideration of the gaol committee a rule applicable to them, at their next meeting.

12. The Governor to be expected also to be constantly on the look-out for means to improve the state and discipline of the gaol; and when he has anything to propose, to make a written application at the next meeting of the gaol committee for power to carry the improvement into effect.

Letter from the Lord Provost.

Sir, Edinburgh, 29th March, 1838.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th current, and to acquaint you that the Magistrates and Council have given to your suggestions their best consideration; that that as to the library has been already carried into effect; that two of the day-rooms have been already altered, in conformity with those suggestions; that they are in course of preparing a new set of regulations, embodying the different recommendations made by you, which will, as soon as possible, be submitted to you, and to the authorities whose sanction is requisite to make them effectual; and that when sanctioned they will be put into practical operation.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) JAMES FORREST,
Lord Provost.

Frederic Hill, Esq., Inspector of Prisons, London.

Number of prisoners.

The average number of prisoners during the year ending 1st October, 1837, was 160, viz., 149 criminals (98 males and 51 females), and 11 debtors (10 males and 1 female). The greatest number of criminal prisoners at any one time was 208, and of debtors 24; the least number of criminals being 102, and of debtors 6.

Expenditure

The total expenditure amounted to 2288*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*; giving about 14*l.* 15*s.* as the average cost per head of each criminal prisoner.

Deaths.

Two prisoners and two infants died during the year.

There was no instance of escape.

GLASGOW BRIDEWELL.

(Third Report.)

Glasgow Bridewell.

Number of prisoners.

The system of separation, one main principle of this prison, has been much broken in upon during the last year by an unusual influx of prisoners. The number of separate cells is only 274, while the least number of prisoners, in the year ending 2nd August, 1837, was 280; the average number at the same time being 330, and the greatest number 380. At the present

moment there are even more prisoners, the number being somewhat beyond 400. Under these circumstances, the want of an enlargement to the Bridewell, which has long been under consideration, and which was actually provided for in an Act passed nearly two years ago, has become urgent.

Glasgow Bridewell.

The probable causes of the increase that has taken place in the number of prisoners in Scotland generally, and at Glasgow in particular, have been mentioned in my general Report. Two of them, the bad state of trade and the high price of food, have made the expense of the Bridewell greater than usual. The average cost of each prisoner last year, after deducting the money received for his labour (5*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*), was 3*l.* 17*s.*; whereas the ordinary average cost is only 3*l.*; and in the year 1834 the cost was less than 2*l.* When the accounts are next made out, it will I fear be found that the average expense in the present year is yet greater than it was last year, though an increase is partly accounted for by the circumstance that a greater provision has been made for the instruction of the prisoners, and that two or three officers have been added to prevent the necessity of employing prisoners in duties which bring them in contact with other prisoners.

Cost per head.

In speaking of the foregoing sums, it must of course be understood that *all* expenses are included, except interest on the original cost of the building.

A small wing has been erected since the time of my last report, containing 14 rooms (10 feet by 14), for female prisoners employed in spinning thread, each room having the necessary machinery for that purpose. Above these rooms there are sleeping-cells for the same prisoners. The work-rooms are warmed by Perkins's hot-water pipes, which are found to do their work well and cheaply, and to give but little trouble. The same apparatus heats a drying-closet for clothes and a bath, and the daily cost of the fuel for the whole is not more than 8*d.* or 9*d.* An oven has also been put up, and the bread consumed in the bridewell is now baked on the spot.

Thread-mill warming apparatus.

It is an extraordinary fact that the inmates of the work-rooms just mentioned (which are always at a comfortable temperature) have suffered much more from catarrh, &c. during the late severe winter, than the generality of the prisoners, although the cells in which the latter are confined have no provision whatever for artificial heat. The explanation that occurs to me of this enigma is, that the night-cells of the prisoners at work in the treadmill not being warmed, these prisoners are subjected to a great and sudden change of temperature in going into them, though, to be sure, not to a more sudden change than most people in the middle and lower ranks of life, since a fire in the bed-chamber is not a common luxury. Whatever may be the explanation, however, there is no doubt about the fact.

Effect on health.

The number of deaths last year was unusually high, being 9 instead of the ordinary average, 3. This unusual mortality may probably be accounted for by the crowded state of the prison, and the fact that there has been a great deal of sickness in Glasgow generally. Even 9 deaths, however, are less than 3 per cent., on the average number of prisoners, and less than a-half per cent., or 1 in 200, of the number committed.

Deaths.

As it has been frequently charged upon the separate system, that it tends to produce idiotcy, insanity, and suicide, I have made particular inquiries on these points of the Governor of this prison, and I learn from him that, during the 25 years that the Glasgow bridewell has been under his charge, *not a single instance of idiotcy or insanity has arisen.* There have, indeed, been nine cases of suicide; but, considering the large number of prisoners, the dissipated habits of criminals, and the great length of time over which these cases are spread, the number will, I presume, appear to most persons to be less than might have been expected. Mr. Brebner states, that most of these cases occurred within a few days after the prisoner was admitted. The last instance of suicide happened about two years ago.

Idiotcy, insanity, and suicide.

One great advantage of the system of useful and profitable labour (at least so I esteem it) is, that it causes the officers to visit the prisoners very frequently. This must have a reviving effect, and tend to prevent the prisoner's mind from sinking into gloomy despondency, or becoming embittered towards society at large. A similar effect must also be produced by the employment itself.

March, 1838.

GLASGOW GAOL.

(Second Report.)

Glasgow Gaol.

This prison continues in a bad state, and it is greatly to be hoped that it will soon be abandoned. The day on which it is pulled down will certainly witness the removal of a school of crime.

Nothing beyond palliatives can, of course, be adopted, so long as the present building remains; and if the Scottish Prisons Bill passes, a new building will not be required. But more might, I think, have been done in the way of temporary improvement than has hitherto been attempted.

Bad state.

I visited this prison about three months ago, and I found very little alteration in it since the time of my first inspection, about two years before. A few days fince, however, I received a letter from the City Chamberlain, informing me that part of the debtors' side of the prison (now not wanted for debtors) has been appropriated to the separate confinement of some of the female prisoners; which, as far as it goes, is a good change; for, until lately, the females were all huddled together during the day, and divided only into three or four classes during the night.

The average number of prisoners last year (1837) was 83 criminals (60 males and 23 females), and 14 debtors (13 males and 1 female). The greatest number of criminals at any one time was 132; and the greatest number of debtors 18.

Number of prisoners.

March, 1838.

Scotland.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Calton.

Bath, &c.

CALTON (FORMING PART OF GLASGOW).

(Second Report.)

At the time of my first inspection of this prison I recommended that a bath should be provided, and a washhouse put up; and that, as a means of enforcing personal cleanliness, no prisoner should be allowed to receive his breakfast till he had thoroughly washed himself.

The following letters show that these recommendations have been brought into operation, and that still further improvements have been adopted.

Gentlemen, Glasgow, 6th December, 1837.

I went through the Calton Bridewell a few days ago, and was much gratified in finding that the suggestions which I made after my last examination had all been carried into effect, and that they had worked well.

I found the prisoners all clean; and I was assured that on their first admission they all go into the bath which has been fitted up. The bed-clothes, too, were clean, owing to a wash-house having been provided. I was glad also to find, upon an examination of the accounts, that the labour of the prisoners had been so productive during the last year, notwithstanding the depression of trade, as nearly to defray the whole expense of the establishment. I shall not fail to mention these facts in my next report.

Further improvements.

Allow me now to point out for your consideration a few other changes, which I trust will, if adopted, still further improve the state of your bridewell.

At present only a few of the cells are lighted, and that with oil lamps. I would recommend that *all* the cells be lighted, and with gas, which might be introduced into them at a small expense, seeing that gas pipes have already been brought into part of the building. If this arrangement be adopted, I have little doubt but that the additional labour of the prisoners will defray the cost of the lighting. But a yet more important advantage will arise from the facility it will afford for establishing regular hours for rising and going to bed throughout the year, and for preventing any of the prisoners from falling into habits of laziness. So soon as the cells are lighted, I should propose that the hour of rising be never later than six, and that in summer, at least, it should be five.

The following are the other recommendations which I take the liberty of making:—

1st. Prisoners placed in the lower cells, but not subsequently committed to the bridewell, to go into the bath equally with the others, except those who are quite clean when they are apprehended. All prisoners who remain in confinement to go into the bath once a-week.

2nd. The prisoners to be supplied with mats to prevent their feet from becoming cold. (The mats can be made by one of the prisoners.)

3rd. The female prisoners to be put under the charge of the keeper's wife, who shall also be expected to superintend the washing, &c., and who shall be allowed a small salary for her trouble.

4th. When, at the end of the year, it shall appear that the management of the prison has been very creditable to the keeper, and the results quite satisfactory, the keeper to be allowed a few pounds as a present and an additional motive to exertion.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

FREDERIC HILL.

To the Commissioners of the Calton Police.

Sir, Calton, 18th January, 1838.

The Commissioners of Police for this burgh were much gratified to learn from your communication to them that the present arrangements and management of the bridewell were so satisfactory to you. They took into consideration the additional changes which you propose for the still further improvement of this prison; and they unanimously agree to adopt the whole of the suggestions, as far as they can be carried into effect. Indeed the only one which they doubt their capability of effectually managing is the washing of those prisoners who are confined in the lower cells, but not subsequently committed to bridewell; but they agree to enforce it as far as possible. They have, however, made a standing law, that all prisoners who remain in confinement shall go into the bath once a-week. The cells are to be lighted with gas, the prisoners supplied with mats, and a female attendant allowed the female prisoners, when necessary.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

Frederic Hill, Esq.
Inspector of Prisons.

(Signed) DAVID CUNNINGHAM,
Senior Magistrate.

GORBALS, (FORMING PART OF GLASGOW.)

(Second Report.)

Gorbals.

I addressed the following note to the Commissioners of Police for Gorbals after my last examination of the cells in the police-office. I have been informed in reply, that the recommendation respecting the bed-clothes has been acted upon, but that the Magistrates do not think they have power to set the prisoners to work.

Gentlemen, Glasgow, 6th December, 1837.

Allow me to express my satisfaction at finding that a bath has been provided at the police office in accordance with my recommendation of last year; and that it has been found of considerable service.

Much cannot I fear be done by way of further improvement, owing chiefly to the very small size of the cells; but I think it would be possible, nevertheless, to set the prisoners to work at some

simple kind of employment, such as picking cotton or picking oakum. Under the circumstances of the case the pecuniary advantage would be very trifling, but it will be very useful in preventing the prisoners from acquiring habits of laziness. I beg leave therefore to call your attention to this subject.

I would also suggest that the bed-clothes be removed from the cells regularly every morning.

I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

FREDERIC HILL.

To the Commissioners of the Gorbals Police.

HOUSE OF REFUGE, GLASGOW.

Glasgow House of Refuge.

A house of refuge has lately been opened at Glasgow, which I trust will ultimately prove of great service. Much liberality was shown in the contributions for its establishment, but the funds have, in my opinion, been expended too profusely on the building itself. I cannot but consider ornament quite out of place in such an erection, indeed as positively mischievous, since it is likely to create a feeling of irritation in the mind of the industrious labourer who brings up his children by his own honest exertions, but who is obliged to lodge them in a much humbler dwelling.

This evil, however, may yet be remedied to a great extent. Plenty of land has been secured; and at a comparatively small cost additional building may be put up sufficient to receive all the destitute among the youthful part of the population of Glasgow. If this were done, and hard work and homely fare made the rule of the establishment, the institution might, I have little doubt, be maintained at a trifling expense, and be rendered a powerful means of preventing crime.

Even if no change be made on the present plan, much credit is due to those at whose expense and by whose exertions this Refuge has been established.

March, 1838.

GLASGOW.

(Second Report.)

Glasgow.

District abounding in poverty, disease, and crime.

I was requested by the Magistrates of Gorbals to inspect a district which they informed me abounded at the same time in poverty, disease, and crime. The greater part of the district is not in Gorbals itself, but is almost close to it, a bridge across the Clyde connecting the two. This portion of the district, which I afterwards learned from Captain Miller is quite the worst in Glasgow, is a compact mass of building intersected only by narrow wynds. It is bounded on the north by the Trongate, on the east by King-street, on the south by the Bridgegate, and on the west by Stockwell-street.

I examined part of this district in company with the Magistrates of Gorbals, and the next day explored an additional portion in company with Captain Miller, Mr. Brebner, and a police-officer. On all sides there were appearances of discomfort; families crowded into dark, ill-ventilated rooms, with dirty children at the doors, and heaps of steaming manure before the windows. Though it was the middle of the day at the time of my second visit, we found many of the inhabitants in bed, the night having probably been passed in crime or debauchery. In several instances I observed persons of different sexes sleeping in considerable numbers in the same room. In one case I remarked a child lying on a heap of shavings and looking very ill. On inquiry I was told that it had the typhus fever, and I was not at all surprised at this, for I had been previously informed by Dr. Cowan, one of the physicians of the fever hospital, and a writer on the medical statistics of Glasgow, that this district is never free from fever. Indeed, in passing through the place, the sources of fever are but too conspicuous.

The frequent sounds of the Irish brogue show from what land many of the inhabitants of this region are wanderers. Many of them also are, I believe, Highlanders, who, in the necessary progress of agricultural improvement, have been compelled to leave their native glens. As there is no poor-law in Scotland for the able-bodied, these unfortunate people appear frequently to take shelter in the towns, thus adding to the apparent amount of urban crime. I found the same effect resulting from this cause at Inverness. Dr. Cowan informed me that fever is more fatal among the Highlanders in Glasgow than among the Irish; which he attributes to the former having less energy of character and less industry, and to their being, therefore, in a lower state of poverty generally.

On descending the stairs of one of the old, frail tenements that we examined, I was told that the place is known by the significant name of *Flea Hall*. Most of the shops in these wynds, Captain Miller informed me, are kept by receivers of stolen goods. The inhabitants of one of the wynds, indeed, have so bad a character, that Captain Miller finds it necessary to keep a police-officer constantly stationed in it. Our progress through this abode of crime, of course, made a commotion among the occupants, and we had soon a crowd of attendants, among whom Captain Miller and Mr. Brebner recognized many who were but too well known to them. In some instances there was a hesitation about admitting us, but the, to them, familiar cry of *Police!* was instantly followed by the turning of the lock and opening of the door. In one place, we found a party of house-breakers, among whom was the notorious ——, who, however, has, I believe, hitherto always contrived to escape conviction; arising in part, no doubt, from the strictness of the Scottish law in always requiring two witnesses. Captain Miller showed me a room in another house in which a murder had been committed about a fortnight before. "He arrived at the spot," he said, "very soon after the deed had been perpetrated, and found the body of the murdered woman still warm, and lying across the bedstead. In the same room,

SCOTLAND.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Glasgow.

Proposed improvements

in one corner of the floor, were two girls, 17 or 18 years old, who did not seem even to have been sufficiently roused by the circumstance of the murder to quit their bed!"

The object of the magistrates of Gorbals in requesting me to visit this part of the town, was, to explain the importance, as a means of breaking up a kind of fortress of crime and disease, of some improvements which they are desirous of seeing carried into execution. These improvements consist chiefly in the opening of good, wide streets, in various directions; and there can be little doubt that the object would be, in part at least, attained, and a most salutary effect produced, by the alterations which they propose. In addition, however, the district should be vigorously weeded of the worst part of its population, and these latter placed for long periods (in many cases for life) in a well-regulated prison. Such a course would probably prove as much for the benefit of the offenders themselves as for society at large.

December, 1837.

PERTH.

(Second Report.)

Perth.

Alterations.

Considerable alterations have been made in this prison with a view to the introduction, as far as possible, of the separate system, productive labour, cleanliness, female officers, instruction, and all the essentials of good prison discipline. The town-council is also about to appoint a new keeper and a matron. If the choice fall on persons really qualified for the arduous duties to be performed—that is to say, if they have kindness and good temper combined with energy and firmness, if they possess a power of discriminating character, and are distinguished for industry, punctuality, perfect sobriety, and that general superiority in intelligence and moral character which is necessary to obtain respect and willing obedience from the prisoners—if these qualifications, in as fair a degree as can be expected from the salary offered, are obtained, then the result of the experiment about to be tried, will, I am confident, be satisfactory—as satisfactory, indeed, as under similar circumstances it has been at Ayr. It is however, of course in vain, that good internal arrangements be made and good regulations established, if the life springs of the whole—a good keeper and matron—be wanting.

Chapel.

A small room or lobby has hitherto been used as a chapel in this prison; but I have recommended its discontinuance, and it has been converted into a cell. Experience of the bad effects of congregating prisoners, even for the purpose of divine worship, had led to the abandonment of the custom at the bridewells of Glasgow and Aberdeen before I entered upon my duties. It was found that the time which ought to have been devoted to the service in which they were nominally engaged was often employed in establishing signals with one another, and in other ways holding communication, so that their worship was a matter of the lips, and not of the mind and heart—in a word, a mere mockery. At Paisley, too, it was discovered some time ago, that a regular plan of escape had been arranged in the chapel. Again, the zealous and able chaplain of the Glasgow Bridewell has expressed it as his decided opinion, that, however small the time at the chaplain's command, his exertions can be employed with more effect by going to the prisoners alone in their separate cells, than by addressing them when collected together. If the city and county of Perth were prepared to incur the expense of building a chapel, in which the prisoners should be completely separated from each other, so that all idea of communication must be utterly vain, then an excellent and benevolent object would be attained; but until this is done, I should anticipate evil instead of good from the prisoners being assembled for worship.

March, 1838.

ABERDEEN GAOL.

(Second Report.)

Aberdeen Gaol.

Alterations.

I visited this prison, for the third time, in the early part of last November. It may be seen by the description of its construction, &c., in my first report, that this prison would readily admit of such alterations as are required for the introduction of a good system of discipline; and at both my previous visits I had urged the immediate adoption of these alterations. The magistrates, each time, approved of the suggestions, and resolved to carry them into effect, but little was really accomplished until very lately. By a communication just received, however, I find that the following improvements have now been made:—

1st. Work has been provided for all prisoners except debtors; and all such prisoners except two are now actually at work, the chief employments being picking oakum and wool, and pounding ginger, by the males, and knitting stockings and picking wool by the females.

2nd. Cleanliness is more strictly enforced. The prisoners are all compelled to wash themselves twice a day, and the male prisoners go into the bath once every week.

3rd. Through the whole winter the prisoners have got up at six o'clock.

4th. Gas has been introduced into all the cells, and into every other part of the prison where it is required.

5th. Inspection holes have been cut in all the doors, and the prisoners now can be watched without their knowledge.

6th. Hammocks have been substituted for the fixed bedsteads, to the extent of 24 hammocks.

7th. An efficient schoolmaster has been engaged, who divides his time between the gaol and the bridewell.

Much praise is due to one of the magistrates, Bailie Harper, for his exertions in carrying these improvements into operation. This gentleman takes a lively interest in the general improvement of prison discipline.*

My recommendations for the complete separation of the prisoners by day as well as by night, for the engagement of a matron, the prohibition of supplies of food from without, and for the restriction of visits, do not appear to have been yet acted upon.

The average number in prisoners in the year ending at Michaelmas 1837 was 50—namely, 46 criminals (29 males and 17 females), and 4 debtors (all males). The greatest number at any one time was 80, and the least number 35. Number of Prisoners.

The total expenditure in the year (exclusive of about 80*l.* for alterations and the cost of hammocks) was 611*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, or about 13*l.* (or about 9*d.* per day) for each criminal prisoner. Expenditure.

There was no death during the year, and no escape. No death nor escape.

March, 1838.

ABERDEEN BRIDEWELL.

Aberdeen Bridewell.

(Second Report.)

Each time that I have inspected the gaol of Aberdeen I have also examined the bridewell. My last visit to it, therefore, was in November. Most of the recommendations that I have made respecting this house of correction have been adopted without loss of time; so that I have always derived pleasure from my examination of it, and from my subsequent meeting with the Commissioners. By a letter received from Mr. Watson (sheriff-substitute, and one of the Commissioners of the bridewell) I learn that the following recommendations made, at my last visit, have been carried into effect:— Recommendations.

1st. The hour of rising not be later than six at any period of the year.

2nd. The Governor to make a selection of prisoners, to be placed under the charge of the schoolmaster, with a view of confining the schoolmaster's attention to those prisoners who, from the length of time that they are to stay in the bridewell, or from other circumstances, may be expected to profit most by his instruction. The Governor to examine each prisoner when the schoolmaster first takes him in hand, and to repeat such examination at least once a-month, that it may be seen what progress he makes. [Mr. Watson states that the Governor reports the result of these examinations to the Commissioners at their monthly meeting, and that the reports have been highly satisfactory.] Hour of rising. Instruction.

3rd. The prisoners to be permitted and encouraged to read such books, in addition to works of an exclusively religious character, as, while they are free from everything of an immoral kind, are likely to prove interesting, and to foster a taste for reading. [Chambers's Journal, which the proprietors are kind enough to present gratis, is now circulated; and I believe the publications of the Kildare-street Society have been procured. A yet greater assortment of books however is still wanted.] Reading.

4th. All the cells to be lighted in the morning and evening (Sunday inclusive). Lighting.

I also recommended—

1st. That all the male prisoners should go into the bath once each week, and that the females should do so likewise so soon as a female officer may be appointed. [It has been determined to carry this regulation into effect as regards the male prisoners, but in the summer only.] Bathing.

2nd. That one of the rooms originally designed for an infirmary should be applied to the purpose of an airing-yard, when not wanted for drying clothes. [This has not yet been done.] Airing yard.

3rd. That the Governor alone shall have authority to allow visits to prisoners on other days than those that are specified in the rules. [I have no information as to whether this has been adopted.] Visits.

4. That the Governor be instructed to look out for situations for all prisoners under 18 years of age, who are confined for periods of not less than three months, and who may have behaved satisfactorily. The Governor to keep a register of such prisoners; the register being laid before the Commissioners at their monthly meetings, and the names of such as are about to leave being read over. The Governor also to report periodically on the conduct of those prisoners who have left, and who have been placed in situations. Situations for liberated prisoners.

With regard to this latter recommendation, Mr. Watson states that the Commissioners "resolved to use their personal influence with manufacturers and others to give employment to persons leaving Bridewell after long confinement, and to request a meeting with such manufacturers as appeared favourable to their views. A meeting was held accordingly; and three gentlemen connected with large manufacturing establishments attended. A letter was received from Messrs. Richards and Co., approving of the views of the Commissioners. The minute of the meeting is herewith sent. It was stated that, although there were strong objections on the part of the workpeople at mills to receive persons from Bridewell, there was no sort of objection to persons coming from the House of Refuge; and that, provided the directors of that institution agreed to receive inmates from Bridewell, they might be provided with employment without much difficulty. Hand-loom weavers, it was allowed, might be provided with work without going through the Refuge; but that it would be as well to take them from that house. A difficulty of providing hand-loom weavers with work, arising from

* Since writing the above I have received the melancholy news of Mr. Harper's death.

SCOTLAND.

Report on Separate Prisons.

their inability to purchase implements, is under the consideration of the Commissioners, and I hope it will be overcome."

The following is the minute referred to :—

Aberdeen Bridewell.

"Aberdeenshire Bridewell, 13th February, 1838.

"In compliance with the request signified on the part of the Committee, Messrs. Alexander Haddan, Patrick Pirie, jun., and William Read, manufacturers, attended the meeting; and had a full conference with the Committee on the subject of giving employment in the manufactories to prisoners liberated from Bridewell, who might be desirous of obtaining work, and should be recommended by the Governor. All these gentlemen expressed their desire, as far as in their power, to meet the views of the Commissioners in this respect; although the matter might be attended with considerable difficulty as regarded the associating prisoners liberated from Bridewell, with the work-people in the mills. The manufacturers, however, thought that less objection in this respect would occur in regard to the employment of weavers, and were to consider in what manner the desirable object in view might be best affected.

"The Committee considered the thanks of the Commissioners are due to these gentlemen for their polite attention to the request of the Committee."

Number of prisoners.

The average number of the prisoners in the Bridewell, during the year ending 31st August, 1837, was 52 (36 males and 16 females); which is 9 less than the average of the previous year. The greatest number at any one time was 74.

Expenditure

The gross expenditure (exclusive of about 50*l.* paid for additional looms, &c.) was 993*l.* 19*s.* 7½*d.* The clear gain by the prisoners' labour was 364*l.* 13*s.* 1½*d.* The nett expenditure, therefore, was 629*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, or about 12*l.* for the year, or 8*d.* per day, for each prisoner.

No death.

There was no death last year.

HOUSE OF REFUGE, ABERDEEN.

Aberdeen House of Refuge.

This House of Refuge was opened about a year ago, and is effecting much good. Many children have passed through it who are now in regular and honest employment, and who, but for the temporary asylum thus afforded them, would probably have again sunk into habits of crime; or, if they had not yet acquired these habits, have yielded to the temptations of crime as a means of livelihood.

It would be an advantage if the Refuge were at some distance from the town; and it is much to be desired that, by the cultivation of the land and other employment, the place should be made, as nearly as possible, self-supporting. These, however, are advantages which may be delayed for a time. The managers have proceeded with wisdom and caution. They have not expended their money on a new building—least of all on one of expensive construction and imposing appearance. They took a vacant building, which was to be had on moderate terms, and made but few alterations in it—avoiding all changes that were not absolutely necessary. The consequence is, that, though the work of the inmates does not at present produce much profit, the cost of the establishment is very moderate.

There is good reason to hope that when the public have witnessed for some time the benefits accruing from this excellent establishment, they will give it that support which is sufficient not only for maintaining it as it at present exists, but for placing it on a wider and more secure foundation.

The following is an extract of a letter from the Sheriff-Substitute to whose exertions in behalf of this refuge the public are much indebted. The letter is dated 28th February, 1838.

Number of inmates.

"Our house of refuge is getting on very well, and is giving shelter at present to between ninety and one hundred inmates. If this severe weather continue, we must suspend the functions of the Admission Committee for want of room. Yesterday we gave directions for fitting up an out-house as a sleeping apartment, every room and bed in the house being occupied. There are at present in the house two young men and three females, who came from bridewell. There are likewise six or eight young women, who have heard something of the comforts of New South Wales, and who would be very willing to go thither, if means were afforded them of being sent out."

There is an interesting article on the necessity and objects of this institution, with illustrative anecdotes, in the 95th number of the Christian Herald. It was written by Mr. Chalmers, the Governor of the Aberdeen Bridewell. March, 1838.

ABERDEENSHIRE.

Aberdeenshire.

Population about 190,000.

Existing prisons.

Prisons existing at present—Nine; viz., the gaol and the house of correction at Aberdeen, and the small prisons at Fraserburgh, Huntly, Inverury, Kintore, Old Aberdeen, Old Meldrum, and Turriff.—The two prisons at Aberdeen are the only good ones in the county.

Prisons wanted.

Prisons wanted.—New prisons are required at Fraserburgh, Huntly, Inverury, Kintore, Old Meldrum, and Turriff; and additional prisons are wanted at the following places:—

Peterhead.—Population about 7000; or, at the time of the herring fishing, about 9000. Peterhead is about 34 miles from Aberdeen.

Strichen.—Population from 800 to 1000. Strichen is the centre of the Buchan dis-

trict; and there are several villages near it. At some places in this district (particularly at New Leeds) there are often many vagrants.

Tarland.—This place is the centre of a district, including Ballater, &c.

November, 1837.

INVERNESS.

Inverness.

(Second Report.)

I have not had an opportunity of visiting this prison since the time of my last report. It is impossible to do more than palliate, to some slight extent, the evils of the place, but the following letter from the Provost shows that some improvement, at least, has been made.

Dear Sir, Inverness, 2nd March, 1838.

I have the pleasure of informing you that all your recommendations for the improvement of the Inverness prison (made 27th September, 1836), have been carried into effect, in so far as it was possible for us to accomplish, and continue to be acted upon. Improvements.

1st. *Food.*—The criminal prisoners are supplied with plain food, cooked in the prison according to your directions. The prisoners would prefer the old system, and have often applied for a return to the former practice; but I do think the change a good one, if our situation as to convenience for cooking was better.

Cleanliness.—Your instructions are regularly atteuded to; which is very beneficial to the health of the prisoners.

Instruction.—An intelligent teacher at a small annual salary, is employed by the town to instruct the prisoners for two hours every lawful day, principally in reading; and books are supplied to them; which is attended with great benefit. Independent of this, a Ladies' society has been formed who visit the female prisoners, afford them instruction, and encourage industry and good conduct. There is, however, no female prisoner at present in our gaol.

Work.—No work has been got for the male prisoners, and none of them seem inclined to do any thing in that way.

The Female Officer is not allowed to enter the cells of the male prisoners.

Accounts.—The prison records as directed by you are regularly kept.

Lime-washing is regularly attended to once a month.

Prison Hours.—These have been altered as far as was possible, according to your instructions, and they are agreeable to the gaol regulations, a copy of which accompanies this; and wherein you will find several of your suggestions embodied.

Visits to Prisoners.—These are restricted to the hours mentioned by you, which you will observe by the gaol regulations.

Sick Room.—The room you pointed out is now used for a sick room when required.

Night Stools are regularly kept in the police cells.

Ventilation.—The window at the top of the staircase affords good ventilation to that part of the prison; but nothing has been done further since my letter to you of February, 1837, as to the ventilation of the criminal cells, for the reasons stated in my letter. Indeed the poor prisoners complain more of cold than anything else; and really I cannot see my way as regards the safe custody of prisoners, if we were to adopt your suggestion on this head.

I trust nothing will come in the way to prevent the valuable bill for the improvement of our Scottish prisons passing this Session of Parliament. No one denies the necessity of the measure.

I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

(Signed) JOHN FERGUSON,
Provost of Inverness.

Frederic Hill, Esq.,
Inspector of Prisons.

ORKNEY.

Orkney.

(Second Report.)

There has been a slight improvement in the prison of Kirkwall since my last report; the nature of which is described in the following extract of a letter from Mr. Shirreff, Sheriff-substitute of Orkney:—

"With respect to the present state of the old gaol which is still occupied as a prison, I have to state that some improvement has been made on the two lower cells, by laying them with timber flooring, putting a casement with glass into the window, and by placing grates in the fire-places. These apartments, however, are deficient in light, so as to be incapable of allowing prisoners to work properly at any useful occupation; nor has any proper system of prison discipline ever been introduced, nor can that be done effectually as you are aware, in the present gaol." Small improvements.

The immediate cause of the foregoing small improvements (the total cost of which was under 7*l.*) was, I believe a declaration on the part of the sheriff of the county, that unless something were done towards rendering the place more habitable he would give directions for all Orkney prisoners being sent to the prison in Shetland, at the cost of the burgh of Kirkwall.

When I was in Orkney in the summer of 1836, I recommended that application should be made to the Commissioners of the Woods and Forests, for a short lease of an old manse, which was then untenanted, and which might, at a small cost, have been turned into a tolerably

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Orkney.

good temporary prison. It was resolved to adopt this suggestion, but the matter was not proceeded in with energy, and during the delay that arose the building was let to another party. The consequence is that the old prison, which is really a disgrace to Orkney, is still in use.

March, 1838.

ZETLAND.

(Second Report.)

Zetland.

Fort Charlotte.

In my last Report I mentioned, that permission had been obtained from the Board of Ordnance to convert part of a military fort near Lerwick into a prison, the place being no longer required for warlike purposes. I also stated that the alterations had been begun, and that at the time of the completion of my Report they were in a state of forwardness. They were soon afterwards finished, and the new prison has now been in use nearly a year.

The following report of the sheriff of the county to the Court of Justiciary, gives a full description of this new prison:—

Sheriff's report.

"In obedience to your Lordships' interlocutor of the 22nd of July last, I proceeded on the 26th of August to inspect the buildings which have been recently fitted up at Lerwick as a gaol for the Lordship of Zetland, and I have now humbly to report that in my opinion they are well adapted for the purpose intended; and that the alterations required to fit them for the reception of prisoners have been executed in a complete and satisfactory manner.

"In compliance with the terms of the remit, I shall proceed to bring under the notice of your Lordships the three points on which I have been directed specifically to report:

1. The nature and situation of the buildings.
2. The number and extent of the apartments.
3. The conveniences available for the accommodation of prisoners.

"1. Fort Charlotte is situated upon an elevated spot of ground at the northern extremity of, and overlooking the town of Lerwick. It is completely detached from any buildings, there being a vacant space of ground between the fort and the town, belonging to the Crown; and the only access to the fort is by a gate, which is generally kept locked, the key being in the custody of a non-commissioned officer of artillery, who has the charge of the buildings. In the interior of the fort there is a large square, intended as parade-ground, when it should happen to be occupied by troops. The principal range of barracks is on the west side of the parade-ground, and in it the apartments fitted up as a gaol are situated.

"2. Two front rooms on the ground floor of the principal barracks, separated from each other by a lobby entering from the parade-ground, are those which have been adapted for the confinement of prisoners. Three cells have been fitted up in each of these apartments. The cells are of the same dimensions, being twelve feet six inches in length, by eleven feet in breadth, and nine feet in height. They are divided from each other by stone walls two feet in thickness; and the cells and passages have been finished with three coats of plaster. The chimneys and lower halves of the windows in the cells have been carefully built up with large stones, cramped with iron. The upper parts of the windows are strongly grated with iron bars, and screened with hopper-shutters, in such a manner as while plenty of air and light is admitted, all view of or communication with the exterior is effectually prevented. Three of the cells (those on the right of the lobby) have interior doors of strong grated iron, together with outer doors of wood fitted with locks and connecting bars, according to a plan obtained from the Superintendent of the Bridewell at Glasgow. The other three cells have strong wooden doors and locks only. The passages from the lobby to the cells are also secured by strong wooden doors and locks. Two of the cells have bedsteads, the other four hammocks, all supplied with proper mattresses, blankets, &c.; and in each cell there is a small chest fastened to the floor, answering as a seat to the prisoner, and having an opening at one end for holding a night-stool.

"3. In the lobby, on each side of which the cells are situated, a large cockle stove has been fitted up, from which air tubes have been conducted into each of the cells, and which have been found completely to answer the purpose of heating them. The tubes are also so regulated by valves that the heated air can be reduced in some of the cells, and excluded from others at pleasure. At the extremity of the lobby there is a privy for the use of the prisoners.

"On the second floor of the barracks, and immediately over the cells on the right of the lobby, apartments have been fitted up for the gaoler, and which appear well adapted for his accommodation.

"At the north side of the parade ground and within a few feet of the barracks, there is a tank, containing about 70 tons of water; and an excellent spring-well with a pump, immediately adjoins the buildings.

"There is also a fire-engine in the Fort always ready for service.

"It may be proper to mention that the mode of fitting up these buildings as a place of confinement, was suggested last year by Mr. Hill, Inspector of Prisons for Scotland, and every effort has been made to carry his views into effect.

"A plan of the buildings accompanies this Report, which will show your Lordships the nature and extent of the accommodation afforded.

"I have thought it right to subjoin the regulations, which have been adopted for the management of the gaol. They were suggested by Mr. Hill and are strictly enforced.

"J. A. MACONOCHIE,
"Sheriff of Orkney and Zetland.

"November 1st, 1837."

The following are the regulations referred to by Mr. Maconochie. I give them, as they may be useful in other prisons similarly circumstanced:—

Regulations.

Regulations for the Management of the Gaol of Lerwick.

Admittance of a Prisoner.—Every prisoner, on his admittance, to be thoroughly examined,

that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, or whether he has anything in his pockets unsuitable to a prison, as money, rings, knives, &c. The prisoner then to go into the bath, if there be one, and if there be no bath to wash himself from head to foot; his hair to be cut if necessary.

Prison Hours.—Rising, 5 o'clock in summer, and 6 in winter; breakfast 8½; dinner 2; supper 8; bed 9½.

Separation.—No two persons ever to be put into the same cell, or to be allowed to see each other, or to hold communication of any kind, except in cases of absolute necessity, arising from insufficient accommodation.

Work.—The quantity of work to be equal to 10 hours' labour daily. Any prisoner who does over-work, to have the value of such over-work placed to his credit. Untried prisoners to be allowed one-half of their ordinary earnings in addition to the whole value of their over-work; and such prisoners not to be *compelled* to work at all.

[Such work should be always given, as is either immediately productive or is useful in teaching a trade, or other occupation by which the prisoner may earn an honest livelihood on his release. When practicable (and it is so much oftener than is commonly supposed) it is generally best to employ a prisoner in that kind of work to which he has been accustomed.]

Inspection.—It is important that a prisoner should not be aware when the eye of the keeper is upon him; and that he should never feel secure for a moment, either by day or by night, from being under observation.

Female Prisoners.—The female prisoners to be under the immediate charge of the keeper's wife. The general rules, however, of the prison to apply to females equally with males.

Food.—The dietary of the Glasgow Bridewell to be adopted, with such modifications as local circumstances may suggest. All the food to be of the plainest quality. No beer or distilled or fermented liquor of any kind to be allowed, nor any luxuries, such as tea, tobacco, snuff, &c., nor any supplies of food, of whatever description, from friends and acquaintances outside the prison.

Clothing.—A plain, strong dress to be provided for every prisoner, and no one to be allowed to retain his own dress except by special permission, given under peculiar circumstances, by the keeper. Every prisoner to have a clean shirt, &c. once a-week.

[If the prison-dress be simple and strong it will not be found expensive; for example, at the Aberdeen House of Correction the total yearly cost of the clothing of the prisoners, including every article of dress, does not exceed 10*s.* per head. When a prison-dress is supplied, all danger of disease arising from filthy clothes is prevented, and finery and rags are alike kept out of the prison. The risk of escape, too, from the concealment of files, saws, &c. is avoided,]

Bedding.—Every prisoner to be allowed a hammock, a straw mattress and pillow, a sheet, a double blanket, and a rug. The blankets to be washed not less frequently than three times a-year.

Cleanliness.—Every prisoner to be required to wash his hands and face twice a-day, and his neck and arms once a-day, and not to receive his breakfast in the morning or his supper in the evening, until the keeper is satisfied that he has washed himself thoroughly. The prisoner to wash his feet once a-week, and when a bath is provided, to wash the whole of his body once a-month. Every prisoner to keep his clothes, work, cell, &c. constantly clean and neat.

Instruction.—It is not sufficient to give a prisoner the power of reading, everything should be done to foster in him a *taste* for reading; and for this purpose the prison should possess a small library of interesting books (free, of course, from everything immoral or irreligious), which may now be had very cheaply.

Rewards.—No artificial rewards to be used, but every prisoner, as already stated, to be allowed the fruit of his own industry beyond the labour he is required to perform by the prison regulations. No one, however, to receive such value in the form of money (unless it be to send to his family, or to apply in some other way creditable to himself), but the earnings to be left to accumulate until the prisoner is released, and not even then to be placed at his own free disposal, but to be given him in such form and in such instalments as the keeper may judge best.

Punishments.—When possible (and it generally is so) the punishment employed should be such as naturally arises from the offence. Thus, if a prisoner be lazy, and do not earn the cost of his food, &c., part of his allowance for the particular day should be withdrawn; if he injure anything in his cell, he should for a time be deprived altogether of the use of the article injured, and be required, either by additinal labour, or by being placed on a lower or coarser diet, to make up for the cost of the necessary repair; if he be turbulent or noisy, he should, if the prison have the necessary accommodation, be removed from his usual cell to an unfurnished one in a distant part of the building, and, if necessary, handcuffs may be employed. Such confinement, especially if the cell be dark, will be found sufficient to reduce the most refractory to obedience and orderly conduct. Corporal punishment, therefore, in the ordinary sense of the term, such as flogging, &c., need never be resorted to, and should be entirely prohibited.

Visits, &c.—Visits to untried prisoners to be restricted to once a week, and that on a particular day, and at a stated time. Visits to convicted prisoners to be in the same way limited to once a month. A register to be kept of all persons admitted as visitors, stating their names and residences; and no one to be admitted unless he be of good character. An officer to be present during the interview, and no visitor to be allowed to stay more than five

minutes. No visitor to be permitted to go into a prisoner's cell except on a particular order, to be granted only under very peculiar circumstances. The legal adviser of an untried prisoner, however, to be exempt from all these restrictions, and to have free access to him at all reasonable times. All letters, whether received or sent by a prisoner, to be inspected by the keeper; who shall use his own discretion about allowing them to pass. No letters, however, to be permitted from persons of bad character, whatever be their contents, and none to be allowed to be sent to such persons.

The following records to be kept:—

1st. *Register of Imprisonments.*—This should contain the date of each imprisonment, the name of the prisoner, his age, residence, a description of his person, the number of times he has been in prison, the offence with which he is charged, whether or not he is convicted of it, by whom tried, the sentence, the date of liberation, and the number days he remained in prison. There should also be columns showing whether the prisoner could read or write at the time of his admittance, and if so, whether with ease or difficulty; also, his usual occupation; and lastly, there should be a column in which to insert anything that may be known respecting the character of the prisoner, or that of his parents.

2nd. *Sick List.*—This should be kept by the surgeon, and should contain the date of sickness, the name and age of the patient, the disease with its probable cause, the treatment, the date of recovery or death, and the number of days off work.

3rd. *Record of Punishments.*—This should contain the date, the name and age of the offender, the nature of the offence, the punishment, and the name of the person by whom the punishment was awarded.

4th. *Journal.*—In this keeper should record all extraordinary occurrences, such as an attempt to escape, the death of a prisoner, &c.; and the visiting Magistrate should enter in it the date of each visit, and his opinion of the state of the prison.

Miscellaneous Regulations.—No fees of any kind to be exacted.

The whole of the prison to be kept perfectly clean, and to be lime-washed, at least twice a-year.

[In the present state of the law, it is doubtful whether a prisoner can be legally compelled to work unless he be so sentenced; it is expedient, therefore, that it should be stated in each sentence that the prisoner will be required to work.]

The following is extracted from a letter which I have received from Mr. Ogilvy, one of the Magistrates of Lerwick, who has taken a leading part in the prison improvements that have been going on:—

"We began to occupy the new prison at Fort Charlotte on the 12th of May last (when the old one was entirely abandoned), and it has since been legalized by the Court both as a criminal and debtor's gaol. The rules you left have been strictly adhered to, and the sheriff and I have frequently visited to see that the gaoler was sufficiently attentive, which we have reason to think he is. He resides in the rooms over the cells, and the whole has been fitted up in exact accordance with the plans you approved of, except that only three of the cells have iron as well as wooden doors, the other three having wood alone, but that is secure enough, especially as there is an outer door to each passage.

"The expense of the work amounted to 360*l.* 19*s.*, to which must be added an allowance to the clerk and collector, making a total of 386*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* This sum has been assessed on this part of the county in like manner with the land tax.

"The prison has been quite full all winter till yesterday, in consequence of a wreck having been plundered and a portion of the delinquents secured.

"There are only two prisoners confined just now, the one convicted of cattle stealing, the other accused of fraud."

Before closing this notice of the new prison at Lerwick, it is but justice that I should bear testimony to the liberal conduct of the landed proprietors of Zetland, in at once granting the money necessary for its construction, notwithstanding the prospect of a general measure for the prisons of Scotland, by which the cost would be defrayed out of a common fund. I sincerely hope that their expectation of benefits from the improvement will be fully realised.

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED.

Population, including that of Spittle and Tweedmouth, about 14,000.

The prison of Berwick has long been noted as a very bad one; and it appears fully to have deserved its reputation. The evils, however, have been much mitigated of late, owing to a considerable decrease in the number of prisoners, especially of those convicted of smuggling. Until within the last two or three years the prison was often much crowded; and as young and old, males and females, met together in the same day room, with sleeping rooms opening into it, scenes of the greatest profligacy were, I understand, of frequent occurrence. The decreased motive now offered to smuggling, and the vigorous measures that have been taken to put a stop to this traffic, have, by greatly reducing the number of revenue prisoners, done

away with a considerable part of the abominable evil just mentioned; though still, when there are prisoners of different sexes at the same time, illicit intercourse is probably sometimes carried on, the arrangements of the prison, and the absence of the keeper during the greater part of the day (for he does not reside on the spot), affording facilities for it. What renders the continued existence of such a sink of corruption as this prison has been, and indeed continues to be, the more unpardonable, is the circumstance of the borough having all along been in a wealthy state, with a surplus income of 2000*l.* to 3000*l.* to be divided among the freemen.

Construction. The prison is formed out of the upper story of the town-house, and is constructed entirely of wood; the partitions, floors, and ceilings being all of the same material. It is a matter of wonder to me that the place has not long ago been destroyed by fire; and if a fire could have taken place without the sacrifice of the inmates, such an event would have been fortunate. Great age cannot be pleaded as an excuse for the bad construction of this prison, for there are people still alive who remember its being built.

As already stated, the prison is formed out of the upper-story of the town-hall. One end is appropriated to debtors, and the other to criminals; the division between them being, like everything else, of wood. In each division of the prison there is a day room, with sleeping rooms opening into it. On the debtors' side there are three such sleeping rooms; and on the criminal's side five, besides two small cells used chiefly for refractory prisoners. The dimensions are as follows:—

	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical content. Ft.
Debtors side.				
1	15¼	12	8	1400
1	15¼	13½	,,	1600
1	11	9½	,,	830
Day-room.				
1	53	24	,,	10,000
Criminal's side.				
3	14½	12½	,,	1450
1	12½	9½	,,	940
1	10	9½	,,	760
2	7	5	,,	280
Day-room.				
1	55½	18½	,,	8200
12				

Present state. The debtors are allowed to walk on the roof of the prison, for fresh air; but the criminals have not an airing yard of any kind. The prison is so insecure, that it is judged necessary to put fetters on any prisoner who is likely to try to escape; and I accordingly found a prisoner in this state who was under sentence of transportation. The prison is dry, but not well ventilated, especially the two small cells. It is warmed by open fires. Except that some of the walls were much scribbled on, I found the place tolerably clean. The windows look upon the street, and intercourse goes on with the outside, though to a less degree than formerly, owing to the erection of hopper blinds before some of the windows.

Prisoners. *Prisoners.*—There were only two prisoners at the time of my visit—a debtor and a criminal. The average number last year was 6, the total being 77. The greatest number at any one time last year was about 15. The debtor, who, I believe, was confined under a chancery decree, appeared to be clean; but as he was in bed both times that I was in the prison (although in each case it was mid-day), I had no good means of judging. The criminal prisoner was dirty, and I found on examination that he often passed the day without washing himself, and that there is no regular supply of soap and towels.

Health. *Health.*—The surgeon stated that the health of the prisoners is generally tolerably good; but that it certainly falls off somewhat during confinement. The most common complaint appears to be bilious attacks. It was stated that there has been no death for several years.

Food. *Food.*—The allowance for food is 4*d.* per day, and is paid in money. Out of this sum, however, a prisoner has to pay for washing, if he choose to incur such expense. Additional supplies of food from without are permitted.

Bedding. *Bedding.*—A straw mattrass and blankets; though no stated number of the latter. There are no fixed times for washing the blankets, and I found some of them dirty. Clothing is given only in cases of destitution.

Discipline. *Discipline.*—None. Work was formerly provided to some extent, but it has latterly been abandoned because it did not pay. The almost total neglect of separation has been spoken of. A chaplain attends on the Sunday evening to read service, but there is no system of private admonition or instruction. The most frequent prison offence that comes to the knowledge of the keeper is getting supplies of food and spirits through the windows. There is reason to believe that the prisoners sometimes gamble also. Punishment appears to be seldom inflicted. When it is, it consists generally of confinement in one of the small cells, and restriction to bread and water. Corporal punishment is never employed. The treatment of the prisoners appears to be indulgent.

Females. *Female Prisoners.*—There is no female officer, and no difference is made in the treatment of females and males.

Debtors. *Debtors.*—The average number last year was under one. The allowance for food is 9*d.* per day, if the debtor be a burgess, and 6*d.* if he be not. Debtors generally provide their own bedding, the use of the prison bedding being allowed only as an indulgence. Visits from friends and supplies of food from without are freely permitted. Debtors are not compelled to attend divine service, but it appears that they generally do attend.

BERWICK-UPON-TWEED.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Visits, &c. Officers.

Miscellaneous.—No difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the gaoler, and appear to be freely permitted. Letters generally pass without inspection. Smoking and snuff-taking are allowed.

Officers.—The paid officers of the prison are a keeper, a chaplain, and a surgeon. The keeper receives 70*l.* per year, the chaplain 20*l.*, and the surgeon 10*l.* The keeper appears to be intelligent, well-meaning, and respectable, and is highly spoken of. By a greater effort however on his part some of the abominations that have been going on in this prison might certainly have been prevented. It must nevertheless be remarked that he is provided with no accommodation for living on the spot, and that he has been allowed but very little assistance, although there have been as many as 30 prisoners at a time.

Fees.

Fees.—The gaoler receives a fee of 1*s.* on the admission of a deserter, and has a claim to a fee of 2*s.* 6*d.* (which however he says he does not enforce in cases of distress) on the discharge of a debtor. There is also an extraordinary fee here of 13*s.* 4*d.* paid to the gaoler on the liberation of a prisoner who has not been convicted of the offence with which he stood charged. This fee is paid by the borough.

Accounts.

Accounts.—The gaoler keeps a register of imprisonments, and a record of all expenses except salaries. These accounts are neat and apparently accurate. The following is a statement of the whole expenditure for the year ending in April, 1837 (about an average of the last 3 years in the total amount, but less by about one-third in the charge for maintenance):—

Expenditure.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Food	73	17	6
Clothing	1	0	5
Furniture and bedding	13	7	3
Repairs	15	1	11
SALARIES.			
Keeper	70	0	0
Chaplain	20	0	0
Surgeon	5	0	0
	95	0	0
	198	7	1

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the sheriff and justices of the peace; but the expenses are defrayed by the corporation.

General observations.

General Observations.—It is very desirable that no time should be lost in abandoning this bad prison, and in providing a good one in its stead. The old freemen (who divide among themselves a considerable portion of the borough funds, and who therefore have a strong interest in preventing any outlay for such a purpose as building a prison, admit, I believe, their liability (under the provisions of their charter) to keep up a gaol; but they contend that they are not bound to furnish a house of correction. And there has been some idea of the erection of two separate buildings; namely, a gaol by the Corporation and a house of correction by the inhabitants at large. I hope, however, that this plan will not be persisted in, as I look upon the distinction between a gaol and a house of correction as artificial and unnecessary, and not likely to endure. And either the expense, both of erection and management, must be much greater if there be two separate establishments, or a much lower degree of excellence must be tolerated. A proposal, which, I think a very good one, has been made for uniting the interests of Berwick and North Durham, as regards the administration of justice and the erection and support of a prison. In this way a thoroughly good prison might be obtained with but little burden to any one. It should be remarked that North Durham is quite separate from the other part of the county of Durham, and is on the northern side of Northumberland. An able memorial, signed by the members of two committees, appointed, the one to represent the interests of North Durham and the other those of Berwick, was presented to Lord Melbourne, on this subject, when he was at the head of the Home Department. The following are extracts:—

Proposed union of Berwick and North Durham.

Memorial.

"That the said district called North Durham has long sustained the most serious inconveniences and grievances in regard to its municipal government.

"That it comprises an area of about 70 square miles, including one side of the harbour of Berwick and several large villages, and contains, according to the last census, a population of 11,927 persons, variously employed in trade, agriculture, mines, fisheries, and navigation. But though part of the county of Durham, it is separated from the body of that county by the intervention of the whole county of Northumberland, by which it is bounded on the south and west, extending to the sea on the east and to Berwick on the north, with which it is connected by a bridge over the river Tweed.

"That the assizes, the four courts of quarter session, the county court, and every other court, whether of civil or criminal jurisdiction, for the county, are holden at the city of Durham, which is distant from North Durham from 68 to 80 miles.

"That the county gaol and the house of correction are also situate at that city, and that the district of North Durham contains no place whatever for punishment or confinement of offenders.

"That the Sheriff, Under-Sheriff, and all other Ministers of Public Justice, are stationed at Durham; and that North Durham does not contain even a sheriff's officer.

"That there is no coroner for North Durham; but it is under the jurisdiction of the coroner for Chester Ward (which is in the body of the county), who resides at Gateshead, distant from North Durham from 55 to 64 miles.

"That therefore on every occasion, when it becomes necessary in North Durham to have recourse to a Court of Justice, or to commit an offender to prison, the parties must travel a distance of about 80 miles, in the course of which they must pass through the whole extent of the county of Northumberland, and about one half of that of Durham.

"That from these circumstances it is obvious that many evils and inconveniences must arise; and therefore your Memorialists deem it necessary only briefly to notice the following:—

"1st. The great discouragement of criminal prosecutions even for serious offences; the distance, and the frequent inadequacy of the allowance for costs to reimburse the actual and unavoidable expenses, deterring prosecutors from proceeding against offenders.

"2nd. The still greater discouragement of the prosecution of misdemeanors from the still more restricted scale for allowing costs; and in those cases in which there is no authority to charge the expenses upon the county-rate the prosecution of legal redress is virtually denied to an inhabitant of North Durham.

"3rd. The expense attending appeals to Quarter Sessions against removals of paupers, and parochial rates, and also against convictions by Justices out of Sessions: the last, in the case of a poor man, really amounting to a denial of justice.

"4th. The difficulty—the almost impossibility—of punishing those minor offences for which Justices are empowered, out of sessions, to commit for short periods; the effect of which has been an almost entire practical impunity, and the engendering and encouragement of a spirit of violence, and an habitual disregard and contempt of the laws, whereby the district has become an asylum and a sort of sanctuary for vagrants and disorderly persons; and that description of private property which is necessarily exposed is altogether insecure, and is constantly the subject of depredation and plunder.

"5th. The difficulty of holding coroner's inquests, which, in point of fact, often are not held in very needful cases, in consequence of the official engagements of the coroner in his own vicinity; the coroner in such a case sending his warrant to inter the body without investigation, and thus frequently occasioning strong feelings of public dissatisfaction.

"6th. The great expense of trying civil actions at the assizes, and the want of any available means for recovery of small debts; for except that portions of the district enjoy the limited and infrequent benefits of Manorial Courts, there is no practical means of recovery whatever; the distance of the County Court, the expensiveness of its proceedings, and the want of a bailiff, wholly precluding any resort to it.

"7th. The difficulty and expense attending the obtaining of replevins, which can be had only at the sheriff's office at the city of Durham (there being no deputy for North Durham), whereby a poor tenant or other person oppressed, or dishonestly dealt with, might be ruined before he could possibly avail himself of the legal means of redress.

"8th. No provision exists for maintenance of the public peace, nor for enforcing the mandates of the law, and the process of the Courts of Justice; and it is matter of fact, that within a few years, in more than one instance, when the result of an action of ejectment has been contrary to the wishes or opinions of the lower orders in the vicinity, the sheriff's officer has been riotously and forcibly resisted, and yet the offenders were allowed to escape with impunity.

"That your Memorialists are decidedly of opinion that such a union as is proposed, while it redressed the evils experienced by North Durham, would at the same time remedy many that are felt by Berwick, and would be productive of other important advantages to that town.

"That the territory of Berwick-upon-Tweed and its liberties, forming virtually a county of itself, is much too limited in extent and value to afford adequately the requisites for the purpose of public justice. The whole contains but one parish, and a population of only 8920 persons; and the entire area does not exceed nine square miles.

"That as the evils attending exclusive jurisdictions of small extent are so universally known, your Memorialists deem it unnecessary to detail those of Berwick; but they think it proper to notice:—

"1st. That the borough gaol is, even according to the existing circumstances of the borough, utterly insufficient, being insecure as regards confinement; inadequate in extent; and utterly devoid of any provision for classification of the prisoners. That the gaol is the property, as a franchise, of the corporation, and that no proposition for its enlargement or improvement has ever been made, nor does, as your Memorialists believe, any intention whatever, on the part of the corporation, to that effect exist.

"2nd. That there is no house of correction whatsoever within the jurisdiction, and that therefore (the confinement of offenders in the borough gaol being universally admitted to be neither punishment nor a means of reformation) no punishment secondary to transportation can in fact be inflicted in the borough. That the evils arising from the want of a house of correction have been long and universally admitted; but as the erection and maintenance of it would be too heavy a burthen on the parish, no steps to provide this remedy for them have ever been taken, nor are any such in contemplation.

"That your Memorialists deem it of great importance to observe that by the union they propose there would be added to the rental of Berwick, which is . £25,433
That of North Durham, amounting to 53,371

Making a total of . . . 78,804

which would afford ample means of maintaining, for the two places united, one proper gaol and house of correction, which Berwick, if not extended, cannot hope to enjoy; and therefore, in this respect, it must in such case remain without improvement.

Improvements.

I recommended the following rules, &c., for immediate adoption in this prison; and the accompanying extract of a letter from Mr. Weddell, the under-sheriff (whose zeal and promptitude in this matter deserve my sincere thanks), shows that most of the rules have already been carried into operation. The town-council, it should be stated, at once granted the necessary funds.

1. *Admittance.*—Every prisoner, on his admittance, to be thoroughly examined, that it may be seen whether he has any disorder, or whether he has anything in his possession unsuitable to a prison, as money, knives, files, &c. The prisoner then to wash himself from head to foot, and his hair to be cut, if necessary.

2. *Separation.*—Female prisoners never to be allowed to remain in the same room with males, even in the day-time; and all the prisoners, whether males or females, to be kept individually separate, as far as the accommodation of the prison will admit.

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3. *Work.*—Prisoners sentenced to labour to be required to perform 10 hours work each day in summer, and as much work in winter as the daylight will permit. Prisoners not required to labour to be encouraged to work by being allowed one-half of their clear earnings; this to be paid them, on their leaving the prison, in such form (as in clothing, &c.) and in such instalments as the keeper may judge best for them. (At a port like Berwick it must always be possible to procure old ropes to pick for oakum, when more profitable kinds of labour cannot be obtained or be introduced into the prison with safety.)

4. *Food.*—The present money-allowance to be abolished, and a dietary substituted. The following, which is the dietary of the Glasgow bridewell and several other prisons in Scotland, is recommended as having been found, by experience, to be wholesome, sufficient, and cheap. It may, however, be modified to suit local circumstances, or any difficulty that may exist respecting the cooking:—

Breakfast.—10 oz. of oatmeal made into porridge, with a pint of milk or 1 oz. of treacle.

Dinner.—4 oz. of barley, made into broth (with marrow-bones, vegetables, and seasoning), and an allowance of bread, varying according to the age, kind of work, and industry of the prisoner, from 5 to 10 oz.

No additional supplies from without to be allowed to the convicted prisoners, and none to unconvicted prisoners, except in cases when the kind of food is unobjectionable (never admitting fermented liquor of any description), and except when the keeper is satisfied that the food has been honestly obtained; and even then such supplies shall be permitted only while the conduct of the prisoner is good in the opinion of the keeper, and shall be limited to such moderate quantities as he may judge proper.

Cleanliness.—Each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every morning, and not to receive his breakfast until he has obeyed this regulation. The prisoners to be supplied with soap, towels, &c. Each prisoner's shirt and stockings to be washed once a-week. The prisoners to be compelled to keep their rooms, cells, &c., constantly clean and neat.

Ventilation.—Care to be taken to keep the prison as well ventilated as possible.

Bedding.—A rug to be allowed for each bed, in addition to the present clothing. The bed-clothes to be removed from the cells every morning, and not to be returned till evening.

Clothing.—A few complete suits of clothes, of different sizes, including linen, &c., to be procured, and the gaoler to be instructed to take the prisoner's own clothes from him when they are ragged or have vermin about them, and to give him one of the prison dresses. Such prisoner, however, to give up the prison dress and receive back his own on leaving the gaol.

Instruction.—A provision to be made for teaching such prisoners as may be unable to read.

Fires.—Fires to be permitted only when the state of the weather renders them necessary. Fuel, however, to be then supplied, in moderate quantities, at the cost of the burgh.

Smoking.—Smoking not to be allowed.

Punishments.—Every prisoner who shall disobey any of the regulations of the prison, or who shall call to any person in the street, or scribble on the walls of his cell, or otherwise misconduct himself, to lose his breakfast; and if he persist in his misconduct, to be removed to one of the small cells. Every case of punishment to be recorded by the gaoler.

Visits.—Visits to untried prisoners to be restricted to one day in each week, and to a stated time on that day. Visits to convicted prisoners to be in like manner restricted to one day in each month. No visitor to stay more than 5 minutes, and the keeper to be present during the interview. The name of every visitor, and his place of residence, to be recorded by the keeper.

The foregoing regulations apply to females equally with males.

Exceptions.—The regulations do not extend to debtors; and the rule respecting visitors does not apply to the legal adviser of an untried prisoner. Debtors, however, equally with others, shall not be allowed to smoke; and no visitor to a debtor shall be permitted to remain in the room in the absence of the gaoler, if any of the criminal prisoners have access to the same room.

Sundry Recommendations.—The whole of the prison to be limewashed immediately, and henceforward to be limewashed regularly twice a-year.

Iron Venetian blinds to be put up before all the windows, on the felons' side of the prison, so as to prevent the prisoners from seeing people in the street and communicating with them.

The few fees which exist to be abolished.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Weddell, dated 17th March, 1838.

Letter from the Under Sheriff.

"Of the 2 prisoners in our gaol when you visited it, one has been removed to the Fleet under a Habeas Corpus; but the other (the convict) is still here, being unable to leave on account of a severe attack of rheumatic fever. He is now recovering, and will be able, I trust, to be removed to the hulks in a week or two. With him, of course, we have not been able to put the new regulations into practice, as the surgeon of the prison has ordered him a nourishing

diet. We have had no other prisoner since you were here, that I am aware of, except a woman, who was in gaol for 2 or 3 days on suspicion of having committed a petty theft, but was discharged for want of evidence, and a young man, who was committed yesterday week for a month, to hard labour, by the justices in petty session, for deserting the service of his master to whom he is an apprentice. In this case we have carried into execution all the regulations which you prescribed, and they are to be continued during the remainder of his term of imprisonment. We have got a supply of oakum, upon picking which he is now employed. The oatmeal which you recommended for breakfast has been divided between that meal and supper, as stated in my letter of 10th February.

"When I said *all* your recommendations have been adopted, I ought to have qualified the expression by excepting Venetian blinds, which are not yet provided; but the 'Committee of Works' of the council, have promised to get them up forthwith.

"In future it is determined, in all cases, to carry the new regulations into effect; and the gaoler is not only obedient, but is satisfied, that the change is a great improvement upon the old system."

Police Cells.—On the ground-floor of the town-house there are 2 cells which are used for police purposes. They are built of stone, and are tolerably secure, but they are cold and damp, one especially. The following are the dimensions:— Police cells.

Cells.	Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
2	12	8½	9	900

The windows are unglazed, and look into a covered place which is used as a meat market. There are no fire-places. Loose straw is the only provision for bedding.

I was told that there are, on an average, about 60 people put into these cells in the course of a year; that these people are chiefly vagrants and drunkards; and that no one is kept more than a single night.

January, 1838.

ALNWICK, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Population about 6,000.

The prison of Alnwick is used both as a house of correction and police prison. It was built about 30 years ago, and cost about 1,500*l.* It stands in the outskirts of the town, and on a sandy and dry fonndation. The place is small, as might be expected from its cost; but it appears to be substantially built; and the construction, though not more than moderately good, is better than that of the generality of prisons. There are 2 rooms and 8 cells, and their dimensions are as follows:— Site, construction, &c.

		Length. Feet.	Breadth. Feet.	Height. Feet.	Cubical Content. Feet.
Rooms.	1	22	12¼	9¾	2,600
	1	14	12¼	8¼	1,400
Cells.	3	12	6½	8¼	650
	4	9½	7¼	8¼	570
	1	9½	7½	9¼	650
	10				

Yards.	Surrounding Wall.	
1	60	43	14½
1	42	18	12

The prison is not secure in all parts, the ceilings of 3 of the cells and of one of the rooms being made of wood. An escape was made through one of these ceilings 2 or 3 years ago; but the keeper told me that the ceiling has since then been strengthened. The prison is dry, and it appears to be well ventilated. I found it clean also. The only provision for warming is a fire in each of the day-rooms. In winter, therefore, the prisoners are generally collected in these rooms, the males in one, and the females in the other; though in summer, the prisoners are usually kept separate, I was assured, in their different cells. Present state.

Prisoners.—Criminal prisoners only are received here, this not being a prison for debtors. There was only 1 prisoner at the time of my visit (a male); and the average number is not more than 6. The total number of prisoners admitted last year, exclusive of police offenders, was 66 (60 males and 6 females); or, including police offenders, about 120. The greatest number at any one time was 12; though in other years there have been as many as 30 at a time. The man I found in confinement was clean; and I learnt from him that he generally washed himself every day, but that he sometimes omitted doing so. Prisoners

Health.—Apparently good. The surgeon states that the most common diseases are itch and venereal disorders, contracted, of course, before entering the prison. There were only 3 cases of sickness (not counting slight indisposition) last year; and there has been no death for several years. Health.

Food.—The keeper is allowed 4*d.* per day for each prisoner, and for this he is expected to Food.

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give them a sufficient quantity of wholesome food. The prisoners have generally porridge and milk for breakfast and supper, and soup or herrings, with potatoes or bread, for dinner; but there are no stated quantities.

Bedding.—Loose straw, 3 blankets, and a coverlet. I found the bedding tolerably clean, but it is not washed at any stated times.

Bedding.

Clothing.

Clothing.—Clothing is supplied only in cases of destitution. The dress for males consists of a jacket, and waistcoat (made of plain grey cloth), and canvass trowsers, woollen stockings, and sometimes a cotton shirt. There is at present no stock of clothes for females.

Discipline.

Discipline.—The discipline, though better, in many respects, than that of the generality of prisons, is nevertheless unsatisfactory and lax. Owing to the want of a sufficient number of cells, and of the means of inspection, it must often be impossible to carry the principle of separation into full effect even in summer; and in winter, as already stated, little more is done than to divide the prisoners according to sexes. I am sorry to have to record one gross instance of irregularity, which I was witness to the morning after my arrival. On approaching the prison, I saw a man on the outside, and in a public thoroughfare, shovelling away the snow; the only other person present being a stranger, to whom he was talking. On drawing nigh, it struck me that this man looked very much like the prisoner I had seen the day before; and on coming up to him I found that it was really he; and it appeared that it was by the keeper's direction that he was out of the prison and thus occupied.

Work.

The hours of rising and going to bed, &c., are not punctually observed. Work is provided for the convicted prisoners, and for such of the untried as are willing to labour, which appears to be the case with most of them. The chief employments are making mats, teasing horse-hair, knitting, sewing, bag-making, crushing corn, pounding sand, mending clothes, and washing. The work, however, is scarcely productive, which is probably owing, to some extent, to the prison being on so small a scale, and to its being placed in an agricultural district.

Instruction.

The only instruction is that which is given occasionally by the keeper himself. The keeper and the matron read part of the church service to the prisoners every Sunday, and sometimes on the week-days also, there being no chaplain. The prisoners are supplied with bibles, prayer-books, and sermons, but with no other books.

Offences and punishments.

The usual prison offences are making noises, refusing to work, and scribbling on the walls; and the ordinary punishment is confinement in a separate cell, and loss of a meal, or of part of a meal. There do not, however, appear to be many offences or cases of punishment. There is no corporal punishment.

Females.

Female Prisoners.—The female prisoners are superintended by a matron, but they are not distinguished in any other way.

Visits.

Miscellaneous.—Untried prisoners, as already stated, are not required to work; and more care appears to be taken to keep them in a state of separation, than is the case with tried prisoners. No other difference, however, is made between the two classes. Visits are allowed on an order from a magistrate. Letters are examined. Tobacco in every form is forbidden. Assistance is sometimes given in helping prisoners back to their parishes after liberation.

Keeper and matron.

Officers.—There are a keeper and a matron, both of whom reside in the prison, the matron being, in the present instance, the mother of the keeper. Both the keeper and the matron appear to be intelligent and respectable, and to be kind in their treatment of the prisoners. The breach of discipline mentioned, however, was discreditable to the keeper's judgment or

Surgeon.

sense of duty. There is a regularly appointed surgeon, who attends when sent for, and while any prisoner is ill.

Fees.

Fees.—None of any kind.

Accounts.

Accounts.—There is a register of imprisonments, a keeper's journal, and an account of expenses. All are neatly kept, and are apparently trustworthy. The following is the expenditure for the year ending at Michaelmas, 1837—(about an average of the last 3 years):—

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
Food	36	17	4
Extra allowance by order of the Surgeon	2	16	5
Clothing	3	7	0
Furniture and bedding	9	0	0
Soap, candles, and fuel, about	18	0	0
Washing	3	12	0
Straw	4	0	0
Repairs	1	6	8
Removing prisoners to take their trial at the Sessions or Assizes	4	11	0
Sundries	10	10	0
Salaries:—			
Keeper and matron	54	0	0
Surgeon (including charge for medicines)	19	4	6
	167	4	11
Deduct amount of fines received	27	6	0
	£139	18	11

Average number of prisoners during the year 6¼.

Average cost.

Average cost of each prisoner during the year about 25*l.*; daily cost about 1*s.* 5*d.*

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace for Northumberland.

January, 1838.

As my stay at Alnwick was necessarily short, and as I had not an opportunity of meeting the visiting magistrates, I made only the following recommendations, leaving anything more important to a future time:—

Improvements.

1st. A Venetian blind to be put up before the window at the end of each of the passages into which the cells open, so as to prevent the prisoners communicating with people on the outside and yet allow a free current of air.

2nd. The rule requiring each prisoner to wash himself thoroughly every day to be strictly enforced.

3rd. The keeper to be instructed to have any scribbling, &c., that may be done on the walls removed or washed over the instant it is discovered, so that every new offence of the kind may be at once evident; and partly for the same reason to have all broken panes of glass repaired without delay.

The foregoing recommendations have, I believe, been carried into effect.

MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Morpeth.

Cost of building.

The prison of Morpeth is the chief prison in Northumberland. It was built, about 10 years ago, at a cost (exclusive of a court-house) of about 60,000*l.*; or more than 1,000*l.* per average prisoner.

A much better prison might certainly have been built for 30,000*l.* or 40,000*l.* The Glasgow Bridewell, which is on an incomparably better construction, and which contains twice the accommodation, cost only 25,000*l.*; and, therefore, after making every allowance for the greater expense of building materials at Morpeth, I feel quite safe in declaring that a much better prison than the existing one might have been built for 30,000*l.* or 40,000*l.* In the construction of the Glasgow Bridewell, however, utility was kept constantly in view, and no sacrifice made to display. This cannot be said of the Morpeth prison. Indeed, the principle of utility was departed from in the very choice of a situation; for Morpeth is in the middle of an agricultural district, where there must always be great difficulty in obtaining profitable employment for prisoners.

Construction, &c.

The prison is built entirely of stone and most of the walls are very thick; there are, however, several slight cracks where the building has settled. The site is tolerably good, being on the outside of the town, and tolerably elevated and dry. Including airing yards and garden there are nearly 3 acres of land. There are altogether 18 day-rooms and 59 small rooms and cells; also 13 airing-yards. The dimensions are as follows:—

THE GAOL SIDE.

	Rooms and Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
Day room .	1	21	15	11	3450
	3	9	6¼	9	500
	3	9	6½	8	450
	1	16	8	9¼	1200
	5	10	7½	9¼	700
Ditto . .	1	51	16	11	9000
	1	11	11	9½	1150
	1	12½	6½	9¼	700
	4	10	8	9½	750
	2	10	9	9½	850
Ditto . .	2	18	16	11	3150
	2	16	8	9½	1200
Ditto . .	2	17	16	11	3000
	28				
Yards . .	1	70	35		
	4	70	20		
	1	62	25		
	6				

THE DEBTORS' SIDE.

Rooms . .	1	16	16	9	2300
	2	16	16	10½	2700
	2	21	15	8½	2650
	2	21	15	10	3100
	4	15	10	9½	1400
	1	16	16	9½	2400
	1	21	15	10½	3300
	2	33	16	10½	5300
	15				
Yard . . .	1	200	90		

CORRECTION-HOUSE SIDE.

Rooms . .	3	9	6½	9	500
	3	9	6½	8	450

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Rooms . .	9	10	8	9½	750
	3	16	8	9½	1200
	1	21	15	11	3500
	2	10	9	9½	850
Day rooms .	1	51	16	11	9000
	3	17	16	11	3000
	1	11	11	9½	1150
	1	16	8	9	1150
	1	18	16	11	3150
Sick rooms .	2	16	15	15	3600
Bath room .	1	16	15	15	3600
	31				
Yards . .	2	70	40		
	4	70	20		
	6				

FEMALE DEBTORS' ROOMS.

Rooms . .	2	15	14	8	1700
	1	14½	8¾	8	1000
	3				

Present state. The surrounding wall of the prison is about 20 feet high in the lowest part. The building is constructed with a view to classification only. It is generally dry, but owing to the roofs being made flat, with surrounding parapets, there is sometimes an accumulation of snow, which, in melting, renders the upper part of the building rather damp. Strange to say also the infirmaries, where dryness is of course particularly required, are damp. For this reason they are seldom used. The day-rooms and all the debtors' rooms are warmed by open fires, but there is no provision for warming the cells, as they were intended only for sleeping. There is very little danger of the building catching fire, since not only the walls but the floors and ceilings are all of stone. The ventilation is, upon the whole, tolerably good, though there is an offensive smell in the night-cells, owing to the want of covers to the chamber-pots. The chimneys, too, of the prison are smoky, which of course tends to vitiate the air. I found most of the prison very clean, though there was scribbling on some of the walls, and one of the rooms was in a filthy state owing to a debtor having used it as a bird-cage. Some parts of the prison are not very secure, but there would apparently be little difficulty in rendering them so. There has as yet been no instance of escape.

Prisoners. *Prisoners.*—Both debtors and criminals are received here. The number of prisoners, at the time of my visit, was 50; namely, 34 criminals (27 males and 7 females) and 16 debtors (13 males and 3 females). The average number of prisoners is about 45. The greatest number at any one time last year was about 60; the total number being 180, namely, 132 criminals (111 males and 21 females), 45 debtors (42 males and 3 females), and 3 revenue prisoners (2 males and 1 female). There was only one of the prisoners that looked dirty, though I found, by my private examination of them, that some occasionally pass the day without washing themselves. The keeper complained of the difficulty of making some of the debtors keep themselves clean. This difficulty is by no means peculiar to the Morpeth prison.

Health. *Health.*—Generally very good. It appears indeed that most of the prisoners greatly improve in health during their stay. There has been no death for several years. The ordinary complaints are constipation of the bowels, itch, and venereal diseases; the bowel-complaints being generally brought on, the surgeon thinks, by want of exercise.

Food. *Food.*—The criminal prisoners, and such of the debtors as are unable to maintain themselves, are allowed fourpence per day each for the purchase of food, besides coal to cook with. With this allowance they are able to live very comfortably, especially when three or four club together. A common dietary among them appears to be oatmeal porridge, with milk or treacle, for breakfast; potatoes and barley-cakes, with a herring, a slice of bacon, or part of a sheep's head or pluck, for dinner; and coffee, with barley-cakes, for supper. Extra allowances are often given to the women who wash, and to any of the men who are set about what is considered a hard job. The Poor Debtors, as they are called, receive their allowance in the form of a direct payment in money, but the criminals are supplied upon a credit given to the baker to the amount of their allowance.

Bedding. *Bedding.*—A mattress (filled with chaff or straw), a pair of sheets, a pair of blankets, and a rug. The debtors have the same as the criminals, except that their bedding is of better quality, and that they are allowed pillows In cold weather, and in cases of sickness, an extra supply of bedding is often allowed. I found all the bedding clean. The blankets are scoured twice a-year.

Clothing. *Clothing.*—Clothing is supplied only to such of the criminal prisoners as are in want. The male prisoner is allowed a coat, waistcoat, and trousers (made of strong grey cloth), a shirt, a pair of thick woollen stockings, a pair of shoes with wooden soles, a Scotch cap, and a pocket handkerchief. A female gets stockings, shoes, and handkerchief, like those of a male prisoner, and in addition a woollen gown and petticoat, a shift, a cap, and a bonnet.

Discipline. *Discipline.*—Very lax. Classification even is not enforced among the females, and there is but very little work; those indeed who are specially sentenced to hard labour passing

most of their time in idleness. There is a small tread-wheel which is used for pumping water, and each time that I went into the yard where the wheel stands a party of the prisoners sallied from the day-room and with great bustle began to turn the wheel; but no doubt they were equally prompt in returning to the day-room so soon as I had withdrawn. A similar farce was enacted in the room in which prisoners beat sand. There is a number of rules drawn up nearly two years ago, and sanctioned by the Secretary of State, directing, among other things, that provision be made for carrying sentences to hard labour into effect, and for providing employment in all cases. Most of these rules, however, appear to have slumbered in the same inactivity as the prisoners themselves.

Classification.

As respects the females, not only is classification disregarded, but opportunities exist for their conversing occasionally with the male prisoners, although they are unable to see them.—The males are divided into classes during the day, and most of those who are untried have a separate cell each at night. The convicted male prisoners, however, generally sleep three in a cell.

Instruction. Chaplain.

The only instruction afforded is that which one prisoner gives to another. The supply of books to the prison is confined to Bibles and other religious works. There is a chaplain who attends twice on the Sunday to perform Divine service, and who occasionally visits the prison at other times. He keeps a journal, but the only entries in it are weekly records of his having read service and preached.

Offences and punishments.

The general conduct of the prisoners is reported to be good. The most common offence appears to be quarrelling with one another; and the usual punishment (when any is awarded) is confinement in a separate cell.

Complaint.

The only complaint that I received respected the baker who supplies the prison; but this complaint was made by a single prisoner and was quite unsupported. The complaint came from a blind man who appeared to be very suspicious of all about him; and, who, a short time before, had laid violent hands upon a boy (who had been put into the same room to take care of him) on the supposition that the boy had robbed him of part of his food. It is not surprising that this blind man is suspicious of others, seeing that he is an artful rogue himself. The offence of which he has been convicted, and which he appears to have carried to a considerable extent, was (strange to say for a blind man) passing bad money. I was told that he employed a boy as an assistant; that he had already corrupted two boys in this way; and that one of these boys was then in prison for what he had done under his direction. The case of this blind man is one of the many which I have met with in which confinement for life appears to be very desirable. From the age of the offender scarcely any chance of reformation can exist, even if he were subjected to the best system of prison discipline. As it is, this man will soon leave prison, necessarily as bad as he entered it, and will probably return to his bad practices and train other children to crime.

Insane prisoners.

There are three prisoners who, by the verdicts of juries, have been found insane. Their cases are as follows:—

—— ——, aged 69, confined for shooting his son. He has been in prison nearly nine years. Madness appears to be hereditary in his family. His father was once in a lunatic asylum, and one of his sons destroyed himself.

—— ——, a young man whose name is not known and cannot be ascertained, as he is an idiot and a stranger (an Irishman). He was committed about six years ago for attempting to steal. He becomes much excited, the keeper says, when he sees children; and the keeper believes that if he were left alone with a child he would kill it.

—— ——, aged 17, was committed 15 months ago for cutting with intent to kill. The keeper believes that insanity is in this case assumed.

The first of the three lunatics appears to be a man of education. He has a little library in the prison, and is allowed under the lax system in use to indulge in a whim for sitting up till three or four o'clock in the morning (another prisoner sitting up to take care of him) to read, and then lying in bed till the middle of the day. Among other matter which he had provided for perusal I observed a violent party newspaper, though how far such a publication is calculated to allay the irritable feelings of a lunatic may admit of question.

Females.

Female Prisoners.—The females are superintended in part, but not exclusively, by female officers. They are better employed than the male prisoners, but, as already mentioned, there is no separation among them; the unconvicted even associating with the convicted.

Debtors.

Debtors.—The average number last year was 11. There is one debtor who has been in confinement six years; and another who has been admitted 23 separate times. Few of the arrests, I was told, are made with a view of enforcing the payment of debts; the object of many being to enable the prisoner to take advantage of the Insolvent Debtors' Act. The keeper, too, believes that in several cases the debt is a mere fiction, which is not surprising considering the comfortable quarters to which it procures admission. Indeed, the only wonder is, that the place is not at all times crowded, seeing how many there must be whose wishes and tastes it is calculated to gratify; for, under ordinary circumstances, each debtor has a comfortable room and fire to himself, with access to a large public room and large piece of ground where he may gossip with his neighbour debtors; he is at liberty to receive visits from his friends in the outer world every day in the week except Sunday; and if he be unable to purchase his own food he has an allowance from the county; and all this without his being required to do a stroke of work. In fact, the place gives one the idea rather of a jovial kind of monastery than of a prison; and I could not but be struck with the waste of time and injury to society caused by an arrangement which placed so many able-bodied men in a state of idleness.

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Miscellaneous.—Very little difference is made between tried and untried prisoners. By the rules of the prison the former are certainly required to work; but, as already seen, the rule is little more than a dead letter. Visits are allowed at the discretion of the keeper, and he examines letters. Smoking is not permitted to the criminals, but it is to the debtors. Assistance appears to be generally rendered in enabling prisoners to return to their places of abode after liberation.

Visits, &c.

Keeper.

Officers.—There are a keeper, a chaplain, a surgeon, two turnkeys (one of whom is called a taskmaster), a porter, and a female officer. The keeper appears to be intelligent, kind-hearted, and trustworthy, but it is sufficient to state that he is now 80 years old, to show that he must be unable energetically to discharge the duties of his office. The keeper seems to have the greatest confidence in the peaceable demeanour of the prisoners towards him, which he attributes to his having always treated them with civility and kindness, and with regard to their feelings. He states that during the whole time he has been keeper (50 years) he has never, in a single instance, been attacked, or even insulted. The chaplain appears to be a kind man, but, like the keeper, to be too far advanced in age for much exertion. The surgeon is in the full vigour of life. He attends generally about three times a week, but oftener when sent for.

Chaplain.

Surgeon.

The keeper speaks highly of the female officer and of the porter, but I do not know how far these officers are qualified to take part in an efficient system of discipline. The keeper states also that one of the turnkeys is trustworthy, but that he is dull and ill-tempered.

Fees.

Fees.—None of any kind.

Accounts.

Accounts.—A register of imprisonments kept in a current form and alphabetically; a journal of extraordinary occurrences; a record of the visits of the county magistrates; a sick list; and an account of expenses. The following is a statement of the expenditure for the year 1837 (less by about one-fifteenth than the average of the last three years):—

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
Food	212	8	2
Extra allowance by order of the surgeon	2	12	1
Clothing	13	16	3½
Furniture and bedding	39	17	4
Soap, candles, and fuel	58	1	10
Stationery, books, &c.	5	2	9
Washing	9	2	9
Straw	2	5	6
Removing prisoners to take their trial at sessions or assizes	19	13	6
Removing transported convicts	63	18	11
Repairs	48	9	11
Sundries	57	2	5½
	532	11	6

Salaries:

Keeper	£210	0	0
Chaplain	80	0	0
Chaplain's clerk	10	10	0
Surgeon (including charge for medicines)	86	11	0
Matron	10	0	0
Turnkey (called taskmaster)	84	0	0
Other turnkey	41	12	0
Porter	41	12	0
	564	5	0
	£1,096	16	6

Average number of prisoners during the year, 40¾; namely, 29¼ criminals (26 males and 3¼ females), 11 debtors (10½ males and ½ female), ½ revenue prisoner.

Average cost per head.

Average cost of each prisoner during the year about 27*l.* Daily cost about 18*d.*

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the high sheriff and the justices of the peace for Northumberland.

February, 1838.

Tynemouth.

TYNEMOUTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Site, construction, &c.

The prison at Tynemouth is used chiefly as a house of correction. It stands on the outskirts of the village of Tynemouth, and about half a mile therefore from North Shields. Part of the building is rather old, but the other part has been put up within these few years. The construction is comparatively good, and is such as to admit generally of the separation of the prisoners. There are 20 cells (two of them having fire-places, and being used for sick prisoners) and 2 rooms, the latter being used, to a little extent, as day-rooms. There are also 2 airing yards.

The dimensions are as follows:—

Cells.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content. Ft.
8	7¾	6	8	370
10	7¾	7	8	430
1	7½	6½	8	400
1	9¼	7¾	8	570

Rooms.	Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.
1	13¼	8	8
1	20¼	12¾	9
Airing Yards.			Wall.
1	40	29	20
1	49	20¾	20

Present state. The prison appears to be secure, there having been no escape for many years. This security is, no doubt, partly attributable to the prisoners being generally kept separate. The place is dry, and tolerably well ventilated; and I found it very clean. It is cold, however, in winter, as there is no provision for warming the cells.

Prisoners. *Prisoners.*—Criminals, both before and after trial, are admitted, but this is not a prison for debtors. There were 15 prisoners at the time of my visit, (13 males and 2 females,) which appears to be about the average number for the last two years. The prisoners were all clean. They wash themselves every day.

Health. *Health.*—Generally good. The keeper states that there has been no death, and no case of liberation on account of illness, during the whole time that he has had the charge of the prison—a period of 40 years. At the time of my visit, however, there was a prisoner who had a sickly appearance, and I was informed that the surgeon had expressed apprehensions of an attack of consumption. I did not, however, see the surgeon myself, as my visit was somewhat hurried.

Food. *Food.*—The prisoners are fed entirely on bread and milk. The daily allowance to each is 3 penny rolls (together weighing 1½ pound at present), and a pennyworth of milk (now 2 pints). The bread, as may be expected from the price, is made of fine flour. The total cost of the food is 4*d.* per day each. Additional supplies from without are not permitted. I found, however, a large piece of bread that had been conveyed to one of the prisoners in his linen, which his friends had had home to wash. From what I saw and heard, however, I am inclined to think that cases of smuggling food, &c., are rare; though there must always be danger of their occurring when communication for any purpose is allowed with the friends or associates of prisoners.

Bedding. *Bedding.*—Each prisoner has a straw mattress, 2 blankets, and 3 rugs. I found all the bedding clean.

Discipline. *Discipline.*—The discipline of this prison is severe. As already stated, the prisoners are generally kept separate—a regulation which is not in itself inconsistent with cheerfulness, as is shown by the experience of Glasgow Bridewell, and other prisons; but at Tynemouth the employment is all of the dullest kind (picking oakum only, and that with a feeling of the work being unproductive); and even this employment is not allowed to prisoners before trial. There is, too, no provision for instruction, and none for lighting the cells in the evenings and mornings; so that in winter there are long periods of darkness and necessary idleness.

The conduct of the prisoners is reported to be generally good. When an offence is committed, the usual punishment is restriction to bread and water, though sometimes corporal punishment is inflicted.

The treatment of the prisoners appears to be as kind as is consistent with the general arrangements. I received no complaint. It should be remarked that the prisoners, though confined during the greater part of the day to their cells, have regular access to the airing-yards, and at these times the principle of separation is broken through, as there are generally two or three prisoners in the yard together.

Females. *Female Prisoners.*—The females are superintended by the keeper's wife; but they are not treated in any other way differently from the males.

Visits, &c. *Miscellaneous.*—There is no difference between tried and untried prisoners, except the one already mentioned, namely, that the untried are not allowed to work. Visits are permitted, at the discretion of the keeper, but he discourages them. Smoking is not allowed.

Keeper and his wife. *Officers.*—The only recognized and paid officer, besides the surgeon, is the keeper. The keeper's wife, however, takes the regular charge of the female prisoners, and appears to give efficient assistance in the general management of the prison; indeed, at the time of my visit, she had the sole care of it, owing to the illness of her husband. Both the keeper and his wife appear to be very well qualified for their office, and to discharge their duties with zeal and discretion. There was nothing approaching to a complaint against them from any of the prisoners. They reside in the prison.

Fees. *Fees.*—None of any kind.

Accounts. *Accounts.*—A register of imprisonments, and an account of expenses. The following is the expenditure for the year 1837 (greater by about one-seventh, owing chiefly to repairs, than the average for the last three years).

Expenditure.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Food	108	2	8
Extra allowances by order of the surgeon	2	0	0
Clothing	26	1	11
Furniture and bedding	9	17	7
Soap, candles, fuel, &c.	33	5	10
Stationery, &c.	0	5	7
Removing prisoners to take their trial	28	19	2
Repairs	44	7	0
Carried forward	£252	19	9

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Tynemouth.

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward	252	19	9
Sundries	23	2	6
Payments to prisoners on discharge	1	8	0
SALARIES.			
Keeper £100 0 0			
Surgeon (including charge for medicines) 23 13 6			
	123	13	6
	£ 401	3	9

Average number of prisoners during the year about 18.

Average cost per head.

Average cost of each prisoner during the year (excluding repairs) about 20*l.* Daily cost about 13*d.*

General observations.

General Observations.—It is probable that offenders whose aberrations from an honest course of life have not become habitual, and who possess the means of obtaining an honest livelihood, are much benefited by a temporary confinement in this prison, since with them opportunities for reflection alone are of great value. But the confirmed criminal, or the young offspring of bad parents, requires much more than this to effect a cure; for him a long and regular course of training to new habits is necessary, with instruction in the means of maintaining himself reputably on leaving prison. In point of fact, notwithstanding the Tynemouth prison is looked upon with dread, (as I was assured in different parts of the county is the case,) there are many recommitments to it.

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace for Northumberland.

February, 1838.

NEWCASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Newcastle.

Population about 58,000; or, including Gateshead, (which, though in the county of Durham, adjoins Newcastle,) about 75,000.

Cost. Construction, &c.

The prison of Newcastle was built about ten years ago, at a cost (including law expenses interest of money borrowed, &c.) of 47,000*l.* Both the site and the construction appear to me to be bad; and there can be no doubt that, as in the case of Morpeth, a much better prison might have been built at little more than half the expense. The prison stands on the outskirts of the town, but it will probably be soon surrounded by others buildings. The ground moreover is clayey, and the prison has been placed in the lower instead of the upper part of it.

The prison consists of a governor's house, with five oblong buildings or sections radiating from it, and a tower, in which there are a kitchen, rooms for the matron and for the porter, and several rooms which have been used for female prisoners. Three of the main sections contain each 11 cells, 2 day-rooms, and 3 sick-rooms. In the fourth section there are 13 common cells, with 2 cells for refractory prisoners; also 2 day-rooms, 4 sick-rooms, and 1 work-room. The fifth section is appropriated to debtors, and contains 22 rooms. The following are the dimensions of the different cells and rooms:—

SECTIONS C, D, AND E, TAKEN TOGETHER.

	Length. Ft. In.	Breadth. Ft. In.	Height. Ft. In.	Cubical Content. Ft.
Cells.				
33	8 1	5 3	8 2	350
Rooms.				
9 (Sick-rooms)	10 3	9 6	8 2	800
3 (Day-rooms)	29 0	13 6	8 2	
3 Ditto	17 0	13 6	8 2	

SECTION F.

Cells.				
3	9 0	5 0	8 1	360
3	9 0	5 4	8 1	390
6	9 4	5 4	8 1	400
1	9 4	5 0	7 9	360
2 (For refractory prisoners)	9 0	5 0	8 1	390
Rooms.				
1 (Sick-room)	10 0	9 6	8 6	800
1 Ditto	10 0	9 6	8 1	760
1 Ditto	9 8	9 6	9 1	820
1 Ditto	9 5	9 5	8 3	750
1 (Day-room)	17 0	9 1	8 2	
1 Ditto	17 0	14 6	8 1	
1 Ditto (used as a working place)	17 0	14 6	9 2	

DEBTORS' PRISON (B.)

Rooms.				
7	10 10	9 6	8 4	850
6	12 0	9 6	8 4	950
1	12 0	6 1	8 4	600
4	10 10	9 6	8 9	900
4	12 0	9 6	8 9	1000

Cells.	Tower. Length. Ft.	Breadth. Ft.	Height. Ft.	Cubical Content.
1	12 3	8 6	9 8	1000
1	12 6	8 8	8 9	950
Rooms.				
1 (In north wing)	21 2	13 3	8 8	
1 Ditto	21 2	13 4	11 8	
1 (Over gateway)	17 9	13 0	11 8	
1 Ditto	18 0	13 0	8 9	
1 (In south wing)	21 2	10 6	8 9	
1 Ditto	21 0	10 6	11 8	

50 Cells, and
50 Rooms.

There are 6 airing yards for criminals, and 2 for debtors. Part of the lower story is rather damp, but the other part of the prison is dry. The day-rooms, sick-rooms, and debtors' rooms, are warmed by open fires; but there is no provision for warming the cells. The ventilation is generally indifferent, and in some parts bad. With the exception of some of the debtors' rooms I found all the prison clean. The prison is tolerably secure, though it never can be quite secure so long as the prisoners are allowed to associate, and are aware when they are not under inspection. The last instance of escape happened about 5 years ago, and was effected by a prisoner getting over the boundary wall. About three years and a half ago, 3 prisoners knocked down one of the turnkeys and tried to escape; but they did not succeed. Again, about a year and a half ago, it was discovered that two of the prisoners had fabricated a key which would open many of the locks in the prison. The key was made of lead, the shank being strengthened by a piece of thick iron wire running down it. The lead had been got from one of the water-closets, and had been melted on the fire of one of the sick-rooms, the artificers being there as patients. Several other keys have at different times been constructed in a similar way.

Present state. Escapes. Keys fabricated

Prisoners.—There were 88 at the time of my visit; namely, 73 criminals (47 males and 26 females), and 15 debtors (14 males and 1 female). The average for the last two years has been 80 criminals and about 14 debtors. The greatest number of prisoners of both kinds at any one time last year was 147; and in the preceding year, 179. The least number las year was about 80. There has been a considerable increase in the average number of prisoners since the establishment of the present police of Newcastle, which took place about two years ago. I found all the prisoners clean with exception of one of the debtors, who was very dirty. All the criminal prisoners wash themselves once a day, and many of them twice.

Prisoners.

Health.—Indifferent. Last year there were 242 infirmary cases, and 4 deaths. It must, however, be remarked that, in 1837, the influenza was in the prison, and that therefore this amount of sickness is probably above the average. Nevertheless, as a general rule, it appears that the prisoners fall off in health during their confinement. The ordinary complaints are constipation and laxness of the bowels, dyspepsia, catarrh, slight fever, venereal diseases, and itch.

Health.

Food.—The dietary is as follows:—

Food.

		Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	Men and boys at hard labour.	4½ oz. oatmeal	8 oz. bread, 1 lb. potatoes, and 1 pint of milk each.	The same as at breakfast.
	Women	2½ ditto		
	Men and boys not at labour.	3 ditto		
For every other day.	Men and boys at hard labour.	The same as above.	8 oz. bread and 1 pint of soup each.	The same as at breakfast.
	Women	Ditto.		
	Men and boys not at labour.	Ditto.		

The oatmeal is made into porridge; the milk is old; the potatoes are of the weight when cooked. The soup is prepared according to the following recipe (as given by the contractor) at 8*d.* per gallon.

For 100 gallons of soup.

100 lbs. of beef.	10½ lbs of onions or leeks.
67 lbs. of barley.	10¼ lbs. of salt.
53 lbs. of peas.	10 oz. of pepper.

The food appears to be of good quality, and, as will be seen, is abundant in quantity. Some of the prisoners, however, remarked, and I did not at all doubt their declaration, that "they could eat more if they had it." Many of the prisoners are keel-men and pit-men; and it appears that these people are in the habit of living very well, and are blessed with a strong appetite. This circumstance was mentioned in explanation of the unusually liberal dietary. Notwithstanding the supply of food is considerably above the average (at least the average in my district), the cost is very moderate; being at the present time about 3¼*d.* per day, without any addition for cooking, &c., the food being supplied ready cooked. Additional supplies from friends outside the prison are allowed to the untried, but not to the convicted.

Bedding.—The male prisoners now sleep in hammocks, and the change has been found

Bedding.

very beneficial. The cells of these prisoners are now clear during the day, and in fair weather the bedding is exposed to the air. The governor states that by the introduction of the hammock they have got rid of vermin; and he mentioned one advantage which had not occurred to me before, namely, the disappearance of those places for concealment which an ordinary bed and bedstead furnish. The exchange for hammocks has been made in this prison at a trifling expense; the sale of the wooden slabs on which the beds used to be placed having produced nearly the requisite sum. It is now in contemplation to provide hammocks for the females also.

Clothing.

Clothing.—All the convicted prisoners are clothed, and such of the unconvicted as are in want of clothes, or who have their ordinary dress taken from them that they may not disfigure it, and thereby render it difficult for witnesses to recognize them at their trial. The prison dress is of a kind that I approve, being plain and strong, and free from any distinguishing badge.

Discipline.

Discipline.—Neither the separate nor the silent system has hitherto been in use in this prison. The discipline appears, however, upon the whole, to have been better than that of many other prisons, although it is far from good. Cleanliness is enforced except among the debtors; and such of the prisoners as have been tried and convicted do a good deal of work, although their work is not very profitable. On the other hand, the principle of separation has scarcely been carried beyond the removal of males from females, and of the tried from the untried. Here, as at most other prisons, too much time is passed in bed. In winter, indeed, the time thus occupied is so great, that if it were cut down even to one half of its present amount it would be sufficient. At this season the prisoners do not get up till between 7 and 8, and they go to bed at sunset. One cause of this waste of time and encouragement of slothful habits, is the want of a provision for lighting the prison.

Work.

The chief employment of the male prisoners is breaking stones. Some, however, are set to work a tread-mill; and a few are occupied as shoemakers and tailors, or in picking oakum. The females are chiefly engaged in knitting, sewing, and washing.

Instruction.

Library.

The provision for instruction is at present quite insufficient, but it will probably be soon increased. All that is now done is for the taskmaster and his wife to give each about 9 hours per week to teaching. There is a small library of what appear to me well-chosen books; consisting as it does chiefly of such works as travels, voyages, natural history, and other matter, which, while free from every species of immorality, is likely to create a taste for reading. The books appear to have been much used. The chaplain of the prison reads prayers every morning, and preaches on Sundays. Much has not however been hitherto done in the way of private admonition and counsel.

Offences.

Punishments.

The ordinary prison offences are idleness and noise. The females particularly are complained of in both these respects; which may be partly attributed to the peculiarly bad construction of that part of the prison in which they are confined. The usual punishment is the privation of a meal. Solitary confinement is sometimes resorted to, and would be more frequently employed (as it is found by far the most efficient punishment) were it not that the cell set apart for this purpose, in the case of females, is rather damp. The following is a statement of the number of cases of punishment in the last four months. There can be no doubt, however, that many more offences have been committed than those that have been followed by punishment. When the comparative smallness of the number of female prisoners is taken into consideration, their share of the punishment will indeed appear excessive.

	Confinement in Solitude.	Loss of a Meal.
Males	6	15
Females	4	245

There is no corporal punishment.

Females.

Female Prisoners.—The females are superintended entirely by female officers. Owing to the bad construction of the prison, however, it has not hitherto been found possible to prevent the females coming occasionally into contact with the males.

Debtors.

Debtors.—The average number of debtors appears to have been stationary during the last 2 or 3 years, at about 14. In this prison, as in most others that I have visited, the debtors are the most troublesome class of inmates; the next in order being generally the vagrants; then other prisoners sent in for a short time only; and lastly, and superior to all the others for docility and general propriety of conduct, prisoners who remain for long periods. Visits are allowed during 3 hours every day, and advantage is of course occasionally taken of the opportunities thus afforded for smuggling in spirituous liquors. A case was detected about 2 months ago. Independently, however, of illicit supplies of spirituous and fermented liquors, each debtor is, by the rules of the prison, allowed to receive *three pints of ale per day;* and as there is nothing to prevent one debtor giving or selling to another, a quantity of liquor can be obtained, too great even for the well-practised powers of an ordinary inmate of a debtors' gaol; so that drunkenness sometimes ensues. The want of cleanliness has been already spoken of The debtors are not required to furnish their own bedding, and few of them do so. Such of them as are considered unable to maintain themselves are allowed the ordinary prison dietary.

Visits.

Smoking, &c.

Miscellaneous.—Untried prisoners are allowed to receive visits once a week; but visits are not permitted to the convicted except on a special order from a magistrate. All letters are examined. Smoking and snuff-taking are allowed to debtors but not to criminals. There is no insane prisoner at present.

Officers.

Governor.

Officers.—A governor, a chaplain, a surgeon, a matron, an assistant matron, a schoolmistress (one of the taskmasters' wives), 2 taskmasters, 2 turnkeys, a porter, and a barber. The governor appears to be well qualified for his office, and to discharge his duties with regu-

larity and zeal. He is fully impressed with the defects of the present state of the prison, and evinces a strong desire for the introduction of an improved system.—The chaplain attends daily, and remains about 3 hours. He is new to his office, but it has been observed that the prisoners are sometimes much moved by his discourses. So long as the present arrangements of the prison continue, little that is effective can be done by the chaplain in private conversation with the prisoners.—The surgeon attends daily; and twice each week he makes a point of seeing every prisoner. He has held his appointment many years, and appears to discharge his duties conscientiously and zealously.—Of the subordinate officers, the governor speaks highly of the matron and assistant matron, the two taskmasters, the principal turnkey, and the porter.

Chaplain. Surgeon. Other Officers.

Fees.—The governor receives 1*s.* for a copy of a warrant for the imprisonment of a debtor; and 1*s.* for every military deserter who is admitted.

Fees.

Accounts.—A register of imprisonments, a governor's journal, a chaplain's journal, a sick list, a record of offences and punishments, and an account of disbursements. The following is a statement of the expenditure for the year ending 23d September, 1837.

Accounts.

Expenditure.

	£.	*s.*	*d.*
Prison diet	383	3	5½
Male and female clothing	93	15	5½
Bedding	25	16	0
Extra allowances by order of surgeon	11	3	7
Medicines	34	18	0
Fuel	66	1	1
Soap, 18*l.* 12*s*; candles and oil, 14*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*	33	5	2
Stationery, printing, and books	31	16	6
Removal of prisoners for trial at sessions or assizes	0	11	0
Removing transported convicts	126	14	5
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison	330	12	7
Sundries	97	1	11½
Officers' salaries, fees, and emoluments	781	18	3
Total	£2,016	17	5½

Average number of prisoners during the year, 88; viz., 73 criminals and 15 debtors.

Gross average cost of each prisoner during the year about 23*l.*

Average cost of each prisoner, deducting the value of his labour (not yet carried to account), about 21*l.* Daily cost about 14*d.*

Average Cost per head.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the jurisdiction of the sheriff, magistrates, and council of the town and county of Newcastle.

Jurisdiction.

February, 1838.

Improvements.—The following letter to the mayor of Newcastle will explain my views as to the best steps to be taken for the improvement of this prison. The letter was laid before the town council, and, I believe, referred to a committee, but I have not been informed whether it has been determined to carry the recommendations into effect.

Improvements.

Newcastle, 6th February, 1838.

Dear Sir,

Having examined the prison of Newcastle with a view to consider what improvements can readily be made in it, I beg leave to report the result of my observations, and to request that you will submit the same to the consideration of the other magistrates and the town council.

Allow me, in the first place, to express my satisfaction at finding that the improvement of the prison here, and the subject of prison discipline generally, have already been several times before the corporation; and that every willingness has been expressed to adopt measures of amendment. Indeed it appears that some of the specific alterations which I shall have to propose have been already under consideration.

I am sorry to have to state that I consider the prison of Newcastle to be badly constructed; and that it would not be possible, without a complete rebuilding, to obtain a thoroughly good prison. It nevertheless does appear to me that a very material improvement may be made at a comparatively trifling expense; and this improvement I should strongly recommend, first because I have no doubt that immediate good will follow, and secondly, because I do not think it would be wise to erect a new large prison at Newcastle, even supposing the money could be raised, seeing that this town is not a place of manufactures where profitable labour for prisoners can easily be obtained; and that, therefore, we must look to the probability, at no distant time, of prisoners for long periods of confinement being sent elsewhere.

The object of the first and most important improvement which I should suggest is the separation of the prisoners. It would not be possible, without incurring a large expense, to effect this object completely at all periods; but much may be done towards it at a moderate cost. The average number of prisoners (exclusive of debtors) is about 80, though occasionally there are as many as 150 or 160. To receive these prisoners there are at present 48 cells, 8 day-rooms, and 12 sick-rooms for males; and 5 rooms used partly as day-rooms and partly as sleeping-rooms, and 2 small rooms, or cells, for females. The 8 day-rooms I should propose to divide into 20 cells, on a plan already suggested, and the sick-rooms I would use as ordinary cells. By this arrangement, 82 cells could be obtained, each capable of receiving a prisoner; and thus the average number of prisoners would be provided for. The surplus, when the average is exceeded, might be placed in the rooms in the tower under monitors, and subject to the silent system, which, though very inferior in my opinion to the plan of separation, is yet far better than a system of unrestricted intercourse. To allow of the occasional reception of a considerable number of prisoners in these rooms, and of these prisoners being employed, it would be necessary to improve the ventilation and increase the admission of light, which can easily be done. Means of inspection also must be provided, and there will be no difficulty in doing so.

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Reports on Separate Prisons.

Newcastle.

The cost of dividing the day-rooms has been estimated at about 300*l.*; no great amount, but a sum which I hope may be considerably reduced. The doors, I observe, are put down at about double the cost of those in the Glasgow bridewell, and that without any advantage, but the reverse, in my opinion, in the mode of construction. In order, however, to have a guarantee for everything being done in the best and most economical manner, I should strongly recommend that the governor of the Glasgow bridewell (Mr. Brebner) be requested to come to Newcastle to lay down a plan of the alterations, and to superintend their execution. Mr. Brebner has already given valuable assistance of this kind at Ayr and Perth.

In order to prevent the necessity of male and female prisoners coming in contact, and with a view of concentrating the matron's attention, and of keeping the females in one division of the prison as much as possible, it is very desirable that a wash-house be built near the kitchen, and a portion of the debtors' yard cut off for a drying-ground. The cost of this erection (including some rooms for one of the turnkeys, but not including a receiving cell for female prisoners, which is wanted) is estimated at about 450*l.*; but this sum may, I hope, with Mr. Brebner's assistance, be cut down somewhat.

For the sake of brevity of expression, I will throw my remaining proposals into the form of a memorandum of recommendations.

Lighting.—The cells to be lighted both in the morning and the evening, to enable the prisoners to remain longer occupied, partly in work and partly in instruction, and to prevent the necessity of varying the prison hours according to the different seasons. It is probable, also, that lighting will be found, in most cases, to supersede the necessity for a distinct provision for warming, especially if, in addition to there being a light burning in each of the cells, the cell be furnished with a thick mat, on which the prisoner can place his feet.

Prison hours.—The prisoners to rise at half-past five, and to go to bed at nine all the year round.

Work.—The tread-mill to be discontinued, except for raising water. The breaking of stones, however, and all other kinds of work which prove to be profitable to be continued and extended as far as possible. Untried prisoners to be encouraged to work by being allowed part of their clear earnings. Such part, however, not to be given until the prisoner leaves the gaol, and even then to be granted in such form (as in clothes, &c.), and in such instalments, as the governor may judge best.

Instruction.—A man to be engaged to give the whole of his time to the teaching of the male prisoners, and a woman to give a portion of her time to teaching the females. The chief qualifications required, to be strict moral conduct, perfect sobriety, intelligence, zeal, good temper, kindness, and firmness. Very moderate acquisitions, in the ordinary sense of the term, are sufficient. It is desirable that the instructors should be a married pair, and that they should live within the prison. The latter object can be readily obtained in a way which the governor will point out.—The prisoners' library to be increased; care being taken to include works which, while they are free from all immorality, are likely to prove interesting and to foster a taste for reading.

Food.—The present restrictions on the admission of food from without to continue in full force; and, in addition, no food to be admitted unless the governor be satisfied that it has been honestly obtained. The quantity of fermented liquor which a debtor is allowed to receive in a single day to be reduced from 3 pints to 1 pint.

Fees.—The only existing fee to be abolished.

I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,
(Signed) FREDERIC HILL.

Thomas Emerson Headlam, Esq., M.D.,
Mayor of Newcastle.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

Hexham.

There are 2 small prisons in this town; one serving as a gaol and house of correction, and the other as a debtors' prison only. I was unable to remain long enough to make a minute examination of either of them; but I saw enough to become acquainted with their general character.

Gaol and House of Correction.

Gaol and House of Correction.—This prison stands about a quarter of a mile to the west of the town. It is ill constructed, and affords but little accommodation, there not being more than 4 or 5 rooms, and about as many cells. The place appears to be dry, and I found it tolerably clean. It is not secure, however, and an escape took place not long ago. The rooms are warmed by open fires.

Prisoners.

There were about 5 prisoners at the time of my visit (1 female and 4 males, I think), and this, I believe, is about an average number. I understood that the health of the prisoners is, in general, tolerably good.

Discipline.

The discipline is of an inferior kind. Little appears to be done in the way of separation beyond the division of males from females; and the work performed is wholly unproductive.

Keeper.

The keeper, who resides in the prison, appears to be tolerably well qualified for his situation.

The following is a statement of the expenses of the prison for the year 1837; about an average of the last 3 years:—

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
Food	30	11	9
Extra allowances by order of surgeon	0	8	6
Clothing	1	15	0
Furniture and bedding	2	8	0
Soap, candles, fuel, &c.	17	0	10½
Washing and cooking	4	17	6
Straw	1	12	0
Removing prisoners to take their trial at sessions or assizes	10	2	6
Repairs	4	5	10
Carried forward	73	1	11½

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward . .	73	1	11½
Sundries	13	9	10½
Payments to prisoners on discharge	0	4	6
Salaries:			
Keeper £40 0 0			
Surgeon (including charge for medicines) . . . 4 16 9			
	44	16	9
	£131	13	1

The prison is under the jurisdiction of the county justices of the peace. Jurisdiction.

Debtors' Prison.—This little prison stands in the middle of the town. There are only 2 or 3 rooms; but they are comfortable, and I found them perfectly clean, as was, indeed, everything about the place. There was only 1 prisoner at the time of my visit, and I was told that the prison is generally empty. The prisoner was comfortably seated by the kitchen fire, chatting with the keeper's wife, and with nothing to prevent his walking off. The keeper's wife, however, who was acting as chief in the absence of her husband, said she had "great confidence in the man." Debtors' Prison. Prisoners.

The keeper resides in the prison.

February, 1838.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Population probably about 240,000. *Northumberland.*

Prisons existing at present.—Ten; namely, a large prison serving as a gaol and house of correction at Morpeth, and another at Newcastle; a small prison, which, in like manner, serves both purposes at Tynemouth, and another yet smaller at Hexham; also, a small debtors' prison at Hexham, and a small prison for the use of the county at Newcastle (the large prison there belonging exclusively to Newcastle itself); lastly, a set of police cells at Newcastle, and a lock-up house each at Belford and Rothbury. I have not yet examined the lock-up houses at Belford and Rothbury, nor the small prison used for county purposes at Newcastle; and it is possible that there may be 2 or 3 other lock-up houses or police prisons in the county that are not enumerated. Existing Prisons.

Additional Prisons wanted.—I am not as yet able to state whether prisons are required at any and what other places. But I may observe, generally, that Northumberland is not a good district for the confinement of prisoners for long periods; since the staple occupations (mining, smelting iron, glass-making, and agriculture) do not afford ready means of profitable employment in a prison. Prisons Wanted.

State of Crime, &c., in Northumberland.—I have not had time to collect materials for anything like a complete report on this head, my visits to this county, and to Durham also, having been rather hurried; a circumstance which will explain the comparative brevity of my report on two or three of the prisons, and which may have possibly led to a few mistakes. All that I shall give regarding the state of crime in Northumberland was obtained from Mr. Blake, the keeper of the Morpeth prison, who has held his present appointment, and has been connected with the police of the county, during a period of 50 years. Mr. Blake's report extends to the whole county, with exception of the town of Newcastle, with which, as it forms a county of itself, he has had little to do. Crime, &c.

Mr. Blake states, that there has not been much crime in the county of late years, and that there is considerably less than there was when he was young; that the most common offences at the present time are thefts (unaccompanied with violence) and poaching, with assaults and other offences arising therefrom. Fifty years ago, however, Mr. Blake says, that murder was not uncommon; and that there was a good deal of highway robbery, housebreaking, horse-stealing, and sheep-stealing; while smuggling, with its attendant offences, was of constant occurrence. At that time, executions were common. Mr. Blake remembers 6 in one year; whereas, 16 years have now passed without a single execution, and, at the same time, many fewer offences are committed with impunity now than formerly. Indeed, it is Mr. Blake's belief that, during the whole of the last 16 years, only one deliberate murder has been committed, and that was in the case of a new-born infant. He believes, also, that there has been no bad case of highway-robbery during the same period. When he was a young man, Mr. Blake says, there were formidable gangs of robbers, many of them gypsies, whom the farmers were afraid to prosecute. Now, however, there are no such gangs, nor any other organized system of robbery. Decrease.

Mr. Blake's experience confirms, what I have often remarked, that crime runs to a considerable extent in families. The following are the particulars of three families who have, at different times, come under his observation,

William Winter's family.—Winter, himself, and one of his sons were hanged together for murder. Another son committed an offence for which he was sent to the hulks; and, soon after his release, was concerned in a murder for which he was hanged. Three of the daughters were convicted of various offences; and the mother was a woman of notoriously bad character. The family was a terror to the neighbourhood; and, according to report, had been so for several generations. Bad Families.

—— ——, the father, along with a woman with whom he cohabited (himself a married man), was hanged for housebreaking. His first wife was a woman of very bad character, and his second wife was transported. One of the sons was a notorious thief, and two of the daughters were hanged for murder. Mr. Blake believes that the only member of this family who turned out well was a girl, who was taken from the father when he was in prison, previously to execution, and brought up apart from her brothers and sisters.

—— ——, the grandfather, was once in a lunatic asylum as a madman. The father had a quarrel with one of his sons about the sale of some property, and shot him dead. The mother cohabited with another man, and was one morning found dead with her throat cut. One of the sons (not he already spoken of) had a bastard child by one of his cousins, herself of weak intellect; and, being under suspicion of having destroyed the child, was arrested. While in prison, however, and before the trial came on, he destroyed himself by cutting his throat.

February, 1838.

Durham.

DURHAM.

Site.

The prison at Durham is used by the county at large, and, indeed, with the exception of lock-up houses, &c., is the only prison within the county. It was built about 20 years ago, and stands in the outskirts of the town, and on a gravelly foundation.

Cost.

It cost more than 100,000*l.*; but I am informed that there was much waste in the erection. The governor's house was first put up in one place and then pulled down and put up in another.

Construction.

Like almost every expensive prison that I have seen, it is so ill-constructed that, notwithstanding the great outlay of money, the very object of the building has been, to a great extent, lost. Nothing beyond a very partial separation of the prisoners can be effected; and, until the late governor provided for it, there was no means of inspection. On the debtors' side of the prison there are 2 halls or kitchens, 4 public rooms for sitting and sleeping, and 10 private rooms. For the male criminal prisoners there are 11 day-rooms, 1 receiving-room, 14 sleeping-rooms, and 6 cells (4 of them being dark, and used only for refractory prisoners). The female prisoners have 5 day-rooms, 2 sleeping-rooms, 12 sleeping-cells, and 1 dark cell. Thus there are only 68 rooms and cells in the whole prison. There are 12 airing-yards.

Present State.

The prison is dry, and I found most parts of it, though not all, clean. It is warmed, with exception of the sleeping-rooms, by open fires. The ventilation requires constant attention. The prison is moderately secure. As nearly as I could ascertain by referring to the records, there have been, altogether, 7 instances of escape. The last occurred about 4 months ago.

Prisoners.

Prisoners.—There were 176 at the time of my visit; viz., 146 criminals (including 30 vagrants) and 30 debtors. 143 of the prisoners were males, and 33 females. The average number of prisoners appears to have been, for some time, diminishing. During the last 4 or 5 years it has been about 145; immediately before that time it was about 170; and before that the number was yet higher. The greatest decrease has been among the debtors, whose average number is not now above 20. Many of the debtors at the time of my visit had come in a short time before, to take advantage of the Insolvent Debtors' Act. The total number of prisoners admitted last year was 1039; viz., 956 criminals and 83 debtors. The greatest number at any one time was about 180, and the least number about 120. The prisoners are in the habit of washing themselves daily, and I found them all clean.

Health.

Health.—Generally good. The prisoners appear to improve in health, commonly during short periods of confinement, but to fall off when the periods are long. The usual complaints are itch, venereal disorders, and catarrh. There is but little fever or other inflammatory complaints. The influenza appeared last year, and about 1 prisoner in 10 was affected. The average number of sick prisoners at any one time is about 5 in the whole, or 1 in 30. The total number of deaths during the last 10 years is 18, or something less than 2 per annum. Last year there was only one death.

Food.

Food.—The dietary is as follows:—*Breakfast and Supper*—Half a pound of bread and a pint and a half of oatmeal gruel (containing 3 ounces of oatmeal). *Dinner*—1 pint of beef stew or soup (containing 6 oz. of meat and bone, or about 4 oz. of meat), and 1 pound of potatoes with salt, on Monday and Wednesday. Half a pound of bread and 1 pound of potatoes with salt, on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Female prisoners are, in addition, allowed half a pint of milk each daily, and 1 oz. of tea and 4 oz. of sugar each, per week. (The extra allowance to females is on account of their labour in washing.)

The food is of good quality. Its daily cost, including cooking, is about 4*d.* per head. Additional supplies from without are allowed to the untried, but not to the convicted.

Bedding.

Bedding.—A straw mattress, a blanket, and a rug, in summer, with an extra blanket in winter. The prisoners generally sleep two in a bed. The bed-clothes were moderately clean.

Clothing.

Clothing.—Clothing is supplied to the convicted only. The dress is comfortable, and the only thing to object to is the yellow stripes upon the stockings, by which the wearer is constantly marked as a criminal.

Discipline.

Discipline.—The silent system was introduced by the late governor; and, except as regards the females, it appears to have been generally carried into full effect; and to continue to be so now.

Silent system.

As this is the only prison in my district in which the silent system is in operation, I made particular inquiries as to its results; and what I learnt went to confirm the opinion that I have long entertained, that the silent system is much inferior to the separate

system, but, at the same time, greatly superior to a system of unrestrained intercourse. This opinion was agreed in by the late governor, as it is by the present governor; but the capabilities of the prison are not such as to admit of the separate system being introduced. Before the introduction of the silent system there appear to have been occasionally great disorders in the prison. In some instances robberies were planned, which were afterwards carried into execution. It is believed, however, of course, that nothing of the kind has taken place from the time that silence was enforced. The system is carried into execution in the usual way; namely, by means of wardsmen; the regular prison officers watching and superintending. The office of wardsman, strange to say, is made compulsory; and in effect is equivalent to a punishment for being the best conducted prisoner in the ward. For the person selected—and selected on the ground of good conduct—receives no reward, nor favourable distinction of any kind; but is subjected to loss of food, &c., for neglecting to report offenders. In addition to this, the poor man has sometimes to bear the ill will of his fellow prisoners, and is occasionally threatened with ill usage, to be inflicted after liberation. Under these circumstances it is surprising that the system works; yet it does appear to work tolerably well (always excepting the females), and that without much punishment. On an average, indeed, the punishments do not exceed one per day; though there are probably many offences committed which are not reported, or detected by the prison officers. The most common offences are talking, making noises, leaving places, quarrelling, striking one another, injuring the books, &c. The usual punishment for talking, or any other minor offence, is the stoppage of a meal; and for a serious offence, solitary confinement in the dark. Corporal punishment is never resorted to.

Offences.

Punishments.

I was surprised, in my private examination of the prisoners, not to find their minds more soured by the constraint under which they are kept, and that they did not entertain angry feelings toward the officers. Such did not appear, in fact, to be the case; at least to any considerable extent. Some of the prisoners stated, that they felt the restriction to silence very severe during the first month or so, but that they then became accustomed to it, and did not so much mind it. Indeed some of them appeared to consider the long continued sitting to which they are constrained more irksome than the silence. One of them gravely called the sitting, "hard work." The chief complaint that I received was from the prisoners in a ward where all the occupants had been punished in consequence of a noise having been made the evening before, and no one having been willing to inform against the offender.

As regards classification, little more is done than separating males from females, and the tried from the untried. There is but little work also, and that little is but slightly productive. The chief employment for the males is breaking stones, and, of late, picking oakum; and for the females, washing and cleaning. The sum received for the labour of the prisoners last year (in addition to the value of the domestic services performed) was only 23*l.*; but it is hoped that more than this trifling sum will be received in future, in consequence of increased attention to the picking of oakum. The same difficulty, however, exists in this county as in Northumberland, in procuring profitable employment for prisoners.

Classification.

Very little is done in the way of mental instruction. A turnkey acts as schoolmaster one hour in the day; and when teaching the boys, he has some assistance from the wardsmen. The prisoners are supplied with Bibles, but there is no library; a circumstance which must add greatly to the dulness and fatigue of the silent system. There is a chaplain to the prison, who reads part of the church service daily, and who preaches on the Sunday morning, and expounds the Scriptures on the Sunday afternoon. He also attends on the Saturday afternoon to give religious instruction; and attends occasionally to admonish privately.

Instruction.

Chaplain.

The prisoners get up at 6 in summer and at half-past 7 in winter; and they go to bed at 9 in summer and at 7 in winter. So that in summer they are allowed 9 hours for sleep, and in winter 12½ hours. Whether nature, however, consents to this arrangement, and is equally indulgent, is questionable.

Prison Hours.

Female prisoners.—The female prisoners are superintended entirely by female officers. As a class they do more work than the males, but a much lower degree of order is preserved among them.

Females.

Debtors.—As already mentioned, the number of debtors is much less than it used to be. Such of the debtors as are unable to maintain themselves are allowed the prison dietary, and are supplied with bedding, fuel, &c. Visits to debtors, and supplies of food from without, are freely permitted. Indeed there appears to be no lack of comfort, or even of luxury, among them. One of their pastimes, I observed, is playing at cards, though I do not happen to know what amount of their creditors' property they generally stake in each rubber. One of the debtors (confined under a Chancery decree) has been an inmate of the prison 27 years! Some time ago his portrait was published; his fat and sleek appearance being, I suppose, regarded as a proud testimony to the excellence of his quarters. Weight of flesh, however, and ruddiness of complexion, cannot last for ever, even in a prison; and the worthy debtor has at length begun to show signs of advancing age; though the falling off may in some degree be accounted for by his apprehension of the abolition of imprisonment for debt; which, I was informed, causes him no little anxiety.

Debtors.

Veteran Debtor.

Miscellaneous.—Untried prisoners are allowed to receive visits from their friends during two hours of each day, except Sunday; the governor using his discretion as to the admission of particular individuals. No visits are allowed to convicted prisoners during the first six months of confinement, except on a special order from a justice of the peace, which is not often obtained. Letters are put on the same footing as visits; all letters, however, are examined. Smoking is allowed to debtors, but not to criminals. There is at present no insane prisoner. Assistance is occasionally given in enabling prisoners, on their liberation, to return to their parishes.

Visits, &c.

Smoking.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

Reports on Separate Prisons.

Durham.

Officers.

Officers.—A governor, a chaplain, a surgeon, a matron, with a female assistant, a taskmaster, a clerk, 6 turnkeys, and a searcher. The present governor has been recently appointed, the late governor having died last summer. His manners are kind and conciliatory, yet accompanied, I hope, with a tolerable degree of firmness. He expresses himself very desirous to promote the moral improvement of the prisoners. Considering the strictness of part of the discipline of the prison, it is very creditable to him and to the officers generally, that there should be so few complaints from the prisoners.—The chaplain has held his appointment for a considerable time. He is kind-hearted, and evidently takes an interest in the performance of his duties.—The surgeon has been but recently appointed. He attends daily when necessary, and never less frequently than once in two days.—Among the subordinate officers, the governor speaks highly of the matron and her assistant, the taskmaster, five of the turnkeys, and the searcher.

Fees.

Fees.—The governor has a fee of 3*s.* per week for each bed occupied by "Master-debtors;" 1*s.* 6*d.* for a copy of the warrant for the imprisonment of a debtor; and 1*s.* 6*d.* for attending the Insolvent Debtors' Court.

Accounts.

Accounts.—A register of imprisonments, a journal, a sick-list, and an account of disbursements. The following is a statement of the expenditure for the year ending at Michaelmas, 1837, (about an average year):—

Expenditure.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Prison diet	746	4	8½
Clothing	151	8	2½
Bedding	54	5	7
Straw	13	6	6
Extra allowances by order of Surgeon	46	14	2¾
Beer and spirits	1	8	10½
Fuel	84	14	3
Soap	53	17	4
Candles, oil, and gas	161	17	8½
Stationery and printing	53	13	11
Furniture	11	13	9
Hardware	67	12	1½
Removing transported convicts	80	14	0
Repairs and alterations in and about the prison	323	0	2½
Sundries	145	18	5
Officers' salaries, fees, and emoluments	1,125	4	2½
	£3,121	14	0¼

Average Cost.

Average cost of each prisoner during the year about 20*l.*—Daily cost, about 1*s.* 2*d.*

Jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction.—The prison is under the general jurisdiction of the high sheriff and the justices of the peace for the county of Durham. The appointment of the governor, however, is not in their hands. Until lately, this appointment rested with the bishop of the diocese, as prince palatine; but it now lies *with the Crown.*

Recommendations.

As one immediate and ready improvement in this prison, I have recommended the appointment of an efficient schoolmaster; but the county magistrates have declined adopting the recommendation.

February, 1838.

COUNTY OF DURHAM.

Durham (County.)

Population probably about 290,000.

Existing Prisons.

Prisons existing at present.—Fourteen; namely, the county prison at Durham, and a lock-up house, each at Stockton, Sunderland, Darlington, South Shields, Gateshead, Houghton-le-Spring, Hetton-le-Hole, Bedlington, Bishop Auckland, and Barnard Castle. Also three police station-houses at Sunderland.

I have not had an opportunity of visiting any of these places of confinement, except the county prison; but, through the kind attention of Mr. Dunn, deputy clerk of the peace at Durham, I have obtained answers to some queries which I drew up respecting them, and of which Mr. Dunn sent copies to the different Clerks of Petty Sessions. From these answers it appears, that with the exception of the lock-up houses at Houghton-le-Spring, Hetton-le-Hole, and Bedlington, and the three station-houses at Sunderland, all these small prisons are insecure, and some of them damp, cold, ill ventilated, and dirty. It appears, moreover, that the want of a good small place of temporary confinement is strongly felt at several of the towns and villages enumerated. In the replies from South Shields it is observed, that "from the great population in this district, a place of confinement nearer than the county gaol is very much wanted, for the imprisonment of persons summarily convicted; as there is such a great expense and risk in conveying prisoners to the gaol at Durham." At Barnard Castle it is remarked, that "there is no place of security for persons committed by the magistrates. Such committals are very frequent, as we have a population of nearly 5000; and, invariably, prisoners are taken by the constables to the public houses in the place (in consequence of there being no safe prison), at a great expense, as there are generally, to prevent escapes, two or three constables to each prisoner; and attempts at rescue are constantly taking place before the prisoners can be sent off to Durham. A place of confinement is absolutely essential here."

I have not been able to make the necessary inquiries for ascertaining at what other places in the county small local prisons are wanted.

February, 1838.

APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

— No. 1. —

LETTER respecting the Separate System, as tested in the Glasgow Bridewell.

Appendix.

Letter on Separate System.

Sir, 44, Chancery-lane, 15th February, 1838.

On my return from Scotland a few days ago I found a copy of the Special Report of the Visiting Justices of the House of Correction, Coldbath-fields, lying for me at the Home Office, with a note from yourself, stating that the same had been sent by order of the Court of General Quarter Session of the Peace for the county of Middlesex.

I beg to return my thanks for this polite attention. I have read the Report with much interest, and in many parts of it, especially those relating to the establishment of houses of refuge, I fully concur. I must, however, protest against the conclusions which are drawn at page 10 from my Report on the Glasgow bridewell; and I must protest also against the general inference to which those conclusions lead.

It is stated, on my authority, that offences and punishments similar to those in the house of correction, Coldbath-fields, exist in the Glasgow bridewell: but it is not added, as I have added, that there are but *few* offences, and but *little necessity* of punishment there.

Again it is stated that "health fails under long confinements." The words of my Report are—"After periods of long confinement in the bridewell the health of *some* of the prisoners certainly gives way; but such instances appear to be confined to those prisoners *whose constitution had been previously undermined.*"—*First Report on the Prisons of Scotland, page* 54. "Re-committals (in the Glasgow bridewell) may amount to one-half the numbers." "Whereas in the House of Correction, under the silence system, the re-committals do not exceed one-third."—*Special Report, page* 10. With regard to this apparent disparity I would remark, that in the first place it must be much more difficult to ascertain cases of re-committal in the Coldbath-fields prison than in the Glasgow bridewell, owing to the much greater number of prisoners that pass through the former; and in the second place, that the Glasgow bridewell, though absolutely smaller than that in Coldbath-fields, is larger compared with other neighbouring prisons, and that there must be consequently a greater chance of an offender in the Glasgow district being sent to the Glasgow bridewell than of an offender in the London district being sent to the Coldbath-fields prison.

While the unfavourable parts of my Report on the Glasgow bridewell have been put in requisition, in treating of the system of separation, those in which good results are traced seem to have been passed over.

I have already spoken of the small number of offences and the small amount of punishment. At pages 53 and 54 of my First Report I speak of the good health of the prisoners in the Glasgow bridewell; and at page 55 I describe the prisoners as acquiring habits of willing industry. And the general conclusion I draw at page 57 is, that "upon the whole the experiment of the Glasgow bridewell has been very successful, and offers great encouragement for the further development of its principles;" a conclusion very different from that which any one reading the Special Report of the Visiting Justices might suppose I had formed.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

FREDERIC HILL.

H. C. SELBY, Esq.,
Clerk of the Peace, Sessions House, Clerkenwell.

— No. 2. —

NOTICE of the Chief Provisions of the Bill to improve Prisons and Prison Discipline in Scotland.

OBJECTS.

Scottish Prisons' Bill

Objects.

THE main object of the Bill is to remedy the evils now existing in most of the prisons of Scotland, to provide good prisons for the whole country, and to establish a good and general system of prison discipline.

Another object is to remove the injustice which now exists in the manner in which the burden of providing and maintaining prisons falls, and to distribute this burden fairly among all classes of the community.

Present evils.

The chief evils referred to are:—

1. The dilapidated state of many of the buildings, and the bad situation and bad construction of others.
2. The corrupting association of prisoners, and the communication that goes on with people outside the prison, by which supplies of spirituous liquors, &c. are obtained.
3. Idleness, and the non-acquirement of the means of obtaining an honest livelihood on leaving the prison.
4. The slothful habits engendered by the prisoners passing too much time in bed.

5. The dirt and closeness of many of the prisons, and the dirty state of many of the prisoners.

6. The gross ignorance—mental, moral, and religious—in which prisoners are now allowed to remain.

7. The insecurity of the prisons, giving rise to frequent escapes.

8. The luxurious diet in some prisons compared with the food of the poor but honest labourer out of prison.

9. The insufficient diet of other prisons.

10. The incompetency of many of the keepers.

11. The attendance of male officers upon female prisoners.

12. The heavy annual expense of many of the prisons.

13. The inequality of punishment, arising from the various systems pursued in different prisons.

It is the object of this Bill to correct these evils; to provide well-constructed prisons (admitting of the entire separation of the prisoners) wherever they are required; to secure the appointment of intelligent, respectable, and efficient governors and keepers (male prisoners being under male officers, and female prisoners under female officers); to train the prisoners to habits of sobriety, cleanliness, and cheerful industry; and by instruction and otherwise to enable them to obtain an honest livelihood after liberation; and lastly, to reduce the cost of imprisonment, and to render the prisons as far as possible self-supporting.

Means of Attainment.

Peculiar burdens to cease, and the interests of the whole country to be united.

1. Scotland to be considered as one undivided state as regards prisons; the peculiar burdens and liabilities of royal burghs, and all other peculiar and local burdens and liabilities relating to prisons to cease; and all expenses of whatever kind connected with prisons and prisoners (except those of prosecution and trial) to be defrayed out of one common fund, to be raised by a general rate on land, houses, and manufactories.

Exceptions.

Exceptions.—The liability of Government to defray the cost in certain cases of the removal and of the maintenance of prisoners is to remain as at present, and no change is to be made in the liability of creditors to maintain debtors (Sections 8 and 16).

The chief reasons for having a common prison fund for the country instead of a separate fund for each burgh or county, as at present, are, first, that the total expense will be much less if prisons be provided with a view to the general use of the country than if each burgh or county were required to have a separate and complete establishment of its own. And secondly, it is a fairer arrangement; inasmuch as certain places are, from the circumstance of their being upon great public thoroughfares, &c., much more exposed than others to the depredations of offenders, and, consequently, to the expense of imprisoning offenders under a system of separate interests. On the other hand, the money could not be taken out of the Exchequer of the United Kingdom, because the expenditure will be confined to Scotland; and Scotland is not called upon to contribute towards the cost of the English and Irish prisons.

Prisons to be provided wherever necessary.

Suitable prisons to be provided wherever they are necessary (Section 13).

It is probable, that under the powers given in this Bill, a few large prisons or penitentiaries will be provided, to which prisoners sentenced to long periods of confinement, will be sent from all parts of the country; the local prisons being used chiefly for short terms of confinement. Probably the Glasgow Bridewell will be greatly enlarged, and this prison made the chief penitentiary; for which its situation near a great labour market, and in the middle of the district most abounding with population, peculiarly qualifies it. It fortunately happens that there are large public buildings in the eastern and northern parts of the country (at Perth and Fort George), belonging to Government, which may readily be converted into good penitentiaries, and which Government has consented to apply to that purpose, as also to give the sum of 10,000*l.* towards the expense of the alterations.

Less than one-half of Fort George, will, it is estimated, afford ample accommodation for all prisoners for long periods in the north-western part of the country; the two existing prisons at Aberdeen serving for the north-eastern part. The depôt at Perth will be capable of receiving nearly 500 prisoners; and this prison, with the assistance of the new prison at Dundee (which, as well as the depôt at Perth, is accessible and well placed for obtaining employment for prisoners), will probably be found sufficient, or nearly so, for the eastern side; and at each prison there is plenty of land for enlargement if required. Edinburgh prisoners, either waiting for trial or sentenced to short periods of confinement, can be accommodated in the Edinburgh Bridewell, those for long periods being sent either to Perth or Glasgow, as may be found most convenient. The southern part of Scotland being chiefly pastoral and agricultural, contains but a thin population, and requires but little prison accommodation. The present prisons of Greenlaw, Jedburgh, Dumfries (when altered), and Kirkcudbright, will serve for prisoners for moderately short periods, while those for long periods can be sent to one of the penitentiaries enumerated.

If these arrangements be adopted, a system at the same time much more efficient and much less expensive will be obtained, than if it were attempted to have a great number of separate and complete establishments; especially if these latter were placed without regard to the useful and profitable employment of the prisoners. The Glasgow Bridewell so nearly defrays its own expenses at present (the real annual cost of each prisoner not being more than 3*l.* on an average), that there is fair reason to hope that that prison,

Appendix.

at least, will, under its altered circumstances, become, after a time, self-supporting; and that the annual cost of the other large prisons will be but small. Not only would there be a great increase in the current annual expense, if a large number of separate and complete establishments were formed, but the original outlay in building would also, of course, be much greater.

One general management.

The management the of prisons to be placed under one authority,—that of a Board of Directors (Sec. 2).

The following are the chief reasons for appointing one general Board of Directors instead of having each prison under local control:—

1. The system proposed is an organized arrangement for the whole country; the right working of one part depending on the proper management of another; and not a number of distinct establishments, where the bad effect of mismanagement is confined chiefly to the particular locality.

2. The prison fund being general and not local, there would not be the ordinary motives for economy in the management of local prisons if they were under separate authority, since all money expended would come out of the general fund, and not enhance the liabilities of the inhabitants of the particular place.

3. For the right management of prisons and the selection of really qualified officers, a greater knowledge of the subject of prison discipline is required, than can be expected of persons who have not given the matter particular attention. (The very defective management of many of the prisons at the present time, and the unskilful and inefficient officers who have been kept year after year at the head of them, may be pointed to, in corroboration of what has just been stated).

4. As it is proposed to distribute the burden fairly over the whole country, a system of local control would be partial and unjust, unless it included all who contribute to the fund; and to accomplish this object a new and complete system of representation would be required.

5. One main feature of the system proposed is the establishment of a few large penitentiaries for prisoners for long periods of confinement, and restricting the use of the other prisons to temporary purposes. But as these penitentiaries will serve for the whole of Scotland, and be supported out of a common fund, it would evidently be inexpedient to place them under the control of local authorities. And a similar remark applies, though in a less degree, to all the other prisons, as these will be available to the whole country, instead of being reserved exclusively for particular districts. The best and largest of the existing prisons, indeed, will probably be used as minor penitentiaries; and will save the necessity of making the chief penitentiaries so large as would otherwise be necessary. This observation is particularly applicable to the two prisons at Aberdeen, the Edinburgh bridewell, the new prison at Dundee, and the prisons at Paisley and Ayr.

6. As the Board of Directors will, under their general powers, be enabled to provide local superintendence in cases where it may be found advisable, and as the Bill provides a means whereby the directors are empowered, indeed required, to avail themselves of the suggestions of the local authorities, (as will be further explained), it is presumed that no inconvenience will arise from the absence of local Boards.

Constitution, &c., of the Board.

Constitution, &c. of Board.

The Board is to consist of six official members, and of eleven other gentlemen. The official members are the Lord President of the Court of Session, the Lord Justice Clerk, the Lord Advocate, the Solicitor General for Scotland, the Sheriff of the County of Edinburgh. and the Inspector of Prisons for Scotland. The non-official members named in the bill are the Hon. Fox Maule, Sir William Rae, Dr. Greville (Secretary to the Prison Discipline Society), and Graham Spiers, Esq., Advocate. The other non-official members are to be appointed by the Crown; and the Crown is to fill up any vacancy that may arise. (Sec. 2.)

Board unpaid.

The Board, as a body, is to be unpaid; but one of the members (the Inspector of Prisons), on whom much of the labour will necessarily fall, receives a salary as Inspector of Prisons from Government. The Secretary to the Board will also be a paid officer. (Sec. 4).

Powers of Board.

Except that their general powers are to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the Board is to have the sole authority and responsibility relating to prisons in Scotland. The Board will take possession of all the existing prisons; will determine what alterations shall be made in them, and where and on what construction new prisons shall be built; will lay down the rules to be enforced in prisons; will direct the removal of prisoners to such prisons as they may deem most convenient; will appoint the officers; and will have the control of the prison fund. (Sec. 7, 11, 15, and 18.)

Securities against mal-administration.

As just mentioned, the general powers of the Board of Directors are subject to the control of the Secretary of State. This control brings their acts under the ready supervision of Parliament, and, through Parliament, under that of the people at large. The Board is also required to give in a detailed report of their proceedings every year, showing how the prison fund has been applied, &c.; which report is to be presented to Parliament. (Sec. 6.)

Visiters.

Another security against improper administration by the Board is the right of visiting the prisons, given to various authorities, the Board being, at the same time, required to give immediate and attentive consideration to any observations which the visitors may deem it right to report to them. The Visitors, moreover, are to be entitled each to a copy of the Board's Annual Report. The Visitors will consist of the following persons among others:—The Lord Lieutenants of the different counties, the Sheriffs, the Conveners of the Commissioners of Supply, the Magistrates of the Burghs, and Committees to be appointed by the Commissioners of Supply and by the Town Councils. (Sec. 34.)

Assessment.

Assessment.

The plan of assessment has been laid down after much consideration. The original scheme made population alone the basis of the rate; but the Committee of the House of Commons, to which the Bill was last year referred, after an anxious inquiry, thought that they should secure a closer approximation to justice by making the assessment depend partly on the quantum of crime in each district than by depending solely upon population. They were aware that the statistics of crime are very imperfect, but having reference to all the circumstances of the case they resolved upon founding the assessment on the mixed scale of population and of crime.

Mixed scale of population and crime.

The principal difficulty arose from the want of a recent and accurate valuation of real property in Scotland, which, if it had existed, would, probably, have been adopted as a preferable ground of assessment; although it would not have been without its objections. Fortunately, however, the sum to be raised is so moderate, compared with the territory over which it is spread, and the vast population contributing to it, that slight inequalities of pressure will hardly be felt. The sum to be paid by each county, according to this principle of population and crime, appears in the annexed schedule, and will remain unchanged (unless the whole be not required) during the next ten years,—that is, during the time for which the act is to be in force. There can at any rate be no increase upon these sums.

No recent valuation of real property.

Schedule of Assessment.

The assessment for each county (including its burghs) being settled, the portion to be paid by the landward part of the county, on the one hand, and the royal and parliamentary burghs on the other, is determined by the comparative population; it lying with the Board to ascertain, from time to time, what that population is. Thus a royal, or Parliamentary burgh, which contains a tenth of the whole population of the county will have to pay the tenth of the assessment for that county; if it contains a quarter of the population it will have to pay a quarter of the assessment; and so on.

Assessment, how divided.

How to be levied.

That portion of the assessment which falls upon the landward part of the county is to be levied by the Commissioners of Supply; houses and manufactories paying one penny in every pound of real rent for every 5*l.* Scots paid by the land on every 100*l.* Scots of valued rent. The assessment in the burghs is to be made by the magistrates thereof, in such form as they may consider convenient and just; the sum levied on each tenement being equally divided between landlord and tenant. Where, however, in the opinion of the Magistrates, the assessment can be conveniently paid out of the common good of the burgh, they are empowered so to pay it, and thus avoid the necessity of a separate rate.

Limitation of amount.

The whole assessment for Scotland is limited to £30,000 in any one year; this sum including not only the current expenses of the prisons, the cost of removing prisoners (now paid in part out of the rogue money), &c., but the expense of new buildings; some of which the Board will have to erect in every county of Scotland; for, as already stated, it will be the duty of the Board to provide not only large prisons, but small prisons and lock-up-houses wherever they are wanted.

Deductions.

In cases of large recent expenditure on account of prisons, the Board is empowered to make a deduction in the particular assessment; not, however, to a greater extent than 10 per cent. in any one year.

Sundry Clauses.

Fees abolished.

All prison fees to be abolished. (Section 10).

Insane criminals.

The Board to make a suitable provision for insane criminals, and the claim now existing on the parishes of such prisoners for their maintenance, to be abolished. (Section 17).

Power of committing.

Sheriffs and magistrates may commit to the nearest and most accessible prison, without regard to the boundaries of counties, &c. (Section 19).

Assistance to liberated Prisoners.

The Board may assist liberated prisoners to return home. (Section 21).

Expected Results.

Expected results.

Many important benefits are expected to flow from this change. The administration of justice will be more efficient. The burden of maintaining a prisoner through a long confinement was a heavy tax on the district (perhaps a very small one) where he was apprehended. But when that burden falls where it ought—on the community at large—who are protected by his imprisonment from the repetition of his crimes—there will be no motive which can deter the ministers of justice from awarding such a length of confinement as the safety of the public, and the ultimate benefit to the offender himself will demand.

Remunerating employment will be readily found for all whose terms of imprisonment are sufficiently long to make the profit of their labour a matter of importance.

Large numbers collected under the same roof will justify the expense of the most able and vigilant superintendence, and of all desirable training and instruction.

The whole of Scotland being under one system of supervision, causes of crime or impunity of offenders prevailing in particular districts will necessarily attract attention, and obtain a remedy.

Many of the younger offenders, it is hoped, will be reformed. Those who are past reform will be less frequently turned out upon society. And the consequences of these improvements will not merely be a saving of expense to counties and burghs by the comparative infrequency of prosecutions, but the general comfort and prosperity of the country will be promoted by the increased security to persons and property, and by withdrawing numbers of our unhappy fellow creatures from the guilt and misery of a life of crime.

SCHEDULE OF ASSESSMENT.

COUNTIES AND BURGHS SITUATED THEREIN.	Scale of Proportions of each £100 assessed.			Maximum of Assessment, in any one Year.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
ABERDEENSHIRE, including the Burghs of Aberdeen, Peterhead, Inverury, Kintore	9	6	4	2,795	0	0
ARGYLESHIRE, including the Burghs of Campbelltown, Inverary, Oban	3	1	8	925	0	0
AYRSHIRE, including the Burghs of Ayr, Irvine, Kilmarnock	4	6	1	1,291	5	0
BANFFSHIRE, including the Burghs of Banff, Cullen	1	6	7	398	15	0
BERWICKSHIRE, including the Burgh of Lauder	1	0	9	311	5	0
BUTESHIRE, including the Burgh of Rothsay	0	7	9	116	5	0
CAITHNESS-SHIRE, including the Burgh of Wick	1	8	5	426	5	0
CLACKMANNANSHIRE	0	11	2	167	10	0
DUMBARTONSHIRE, including the Burgh of Dumbarton	1	10	4	455	0	0
DUMFRIES-SHIRE, including the Burghs of Annan, Dumfries (including Maxwelltown), Lochmaben, Sanquhar	2	15	8	835	10	0
EDINBURGHSHIRE, including the Burghs of Edinburgh, Leith, Musselburgh, Portobello	13	1	5	3,921	5	0
ELGIN, or MORAYSHIRE, including the Burghs of Elgin, Forres	0	19	5	291	5	0
FIFESHIRE, including the Burghs of Anstruther, East, Anstruther, West, Auchtermuchty, Burntisland, Crail, Cupar, Dunfermline, Dysart, Earlsferry, Falkland, Inverkeithing, Kilrenny, Kinghorn, Kirkaldy, Newburgh, Pittenween, St. Andrew's	4	11	8	1,375	0	0
FORFARSHIRE, including the Burghs of Aberbrothwick, Brechin, Dundee, Forfar, Montrose	5	15	0	1,725	0	0

COUNTIES AND BURGHS SITUATED THEREIN.	Scale of Proportions of each £100 assessed.			Maximum of Assessment in any one Year.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
HADDINGTONSHIRE, including the Burghs of Dunbar, Haddington, North Berwick	1	7	4	410	0	0
INVERNESS-SHIRE, including the Burgh of Inverness	2	19	11	898	15	0
KINCARDINESHIRE, including the Burgh of Inverbervie	1	1	1	316	5	0
KINROSS-SHIRE	0	11	11	178	15	0
KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE, exclusive of Maxwelltown, and including the Burghs of Kirkcudbright, New Galloway	1	7	1	405	15	0
LANARKSHIRE, including the Burghs of Airdrie, Glasgow, Hamilton, Lanark, Rutherglen	13	14	11	4,123	15	0
LINLITHGOWSHIRE, including the Burghs of Linlithgow, Queensferry	1	0	10	312	10	0
NAIRNSHIRE, including the Burgh of Nairn	0	6	10	102	10	0
ORKNEY & SHETLAND, including the Burgh of Kirkwall	1	7	6	412	10	0
PEEBLESSHIRE, including the Burgh of Peebles	0	6	3	93	15	0
PERTHSHIRE, including the Burghs of Culross, Perth	7	14	3	2,313	15	0
RENFREWSHIRE, including the Burghs of Greenock, Paisley, Port Glasgow, Renfrew	7	16	7	2,348	15	0
ROSS and CROMARTYSHIRES, including the Burghs of Cromarty, Dingwall, Fortrose, Tain	2	0	10	612	10	0
ROXBURGHSHIRE, including the Burgh of Jedburgh	2	5	9	686	5	0
SELKIRKSHIRE, including the Burgh of Selkirk	0	7	6	112	10	0
STIRLINGSHIRE, including the Burghs of Falkirk, Stirling	3	7	2	1,007	10	0
SUTHERLANDSHIRE, including the Burgh of Dornoch	0	13	7	203	15	0
WIGTOWNSHIRE, including the Burghs of Stranraer, Whithorn, Wigtown	1	8	5	426	5	0
Total	100	0	0	30,000	0	0

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